"A unique and exciting team story that pushes the boundaries of cosmic super-hero storytelling." – AIPT

THE INFINITY WATCH

LANDY
COLEMAN
BALÁM
HANNA
REBER

UNIVERSAL DESTRUCTION

MARVEL

"It offers a fresh take on the Infinity Stones and introduces a diverse cast of characters with immense power." —The Comic Book Dispatch

THE SEVEN MOST POWERFUL PEOPLE IN THE MARVEL UNIVERSE!

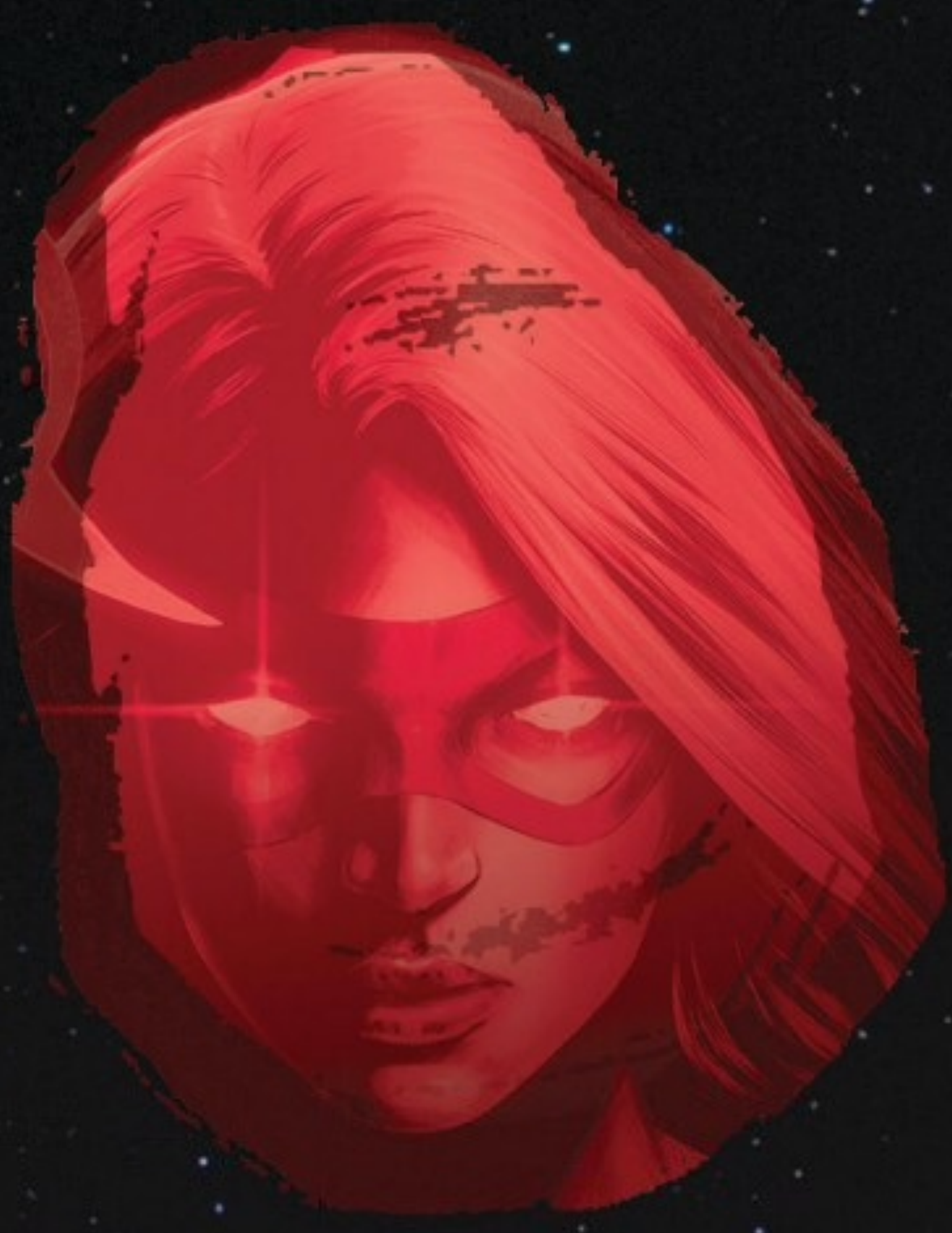
EACH OF THEM WIELDS ONE OF THE EMBODIMENTS OF ALL POWER IN EXISTENCE: the Infinity Stones! Some of the Stone Bearers are villains, and the other half certainly aren't hall-of-fame heroes — so what does this mean for the Marvel Universe? If Star has anything to say about it, we can start calling it the Star Universe. Can Colleen Wing or Phil Coulson possibly tilt the balance toward good? It might not matter when a mysterious antagonist manages to run the table on them, placing everything in existence in deep trouble! When the awesome power of the Infinity Gauntlet is used and reality is rewritten, only the Infinity Watch can make things right. But first, they'll have to remember who they are — or die trying! But if they succeed, is the universe any safer with these loose cannons in possession of the Infinity Stones?!

T+

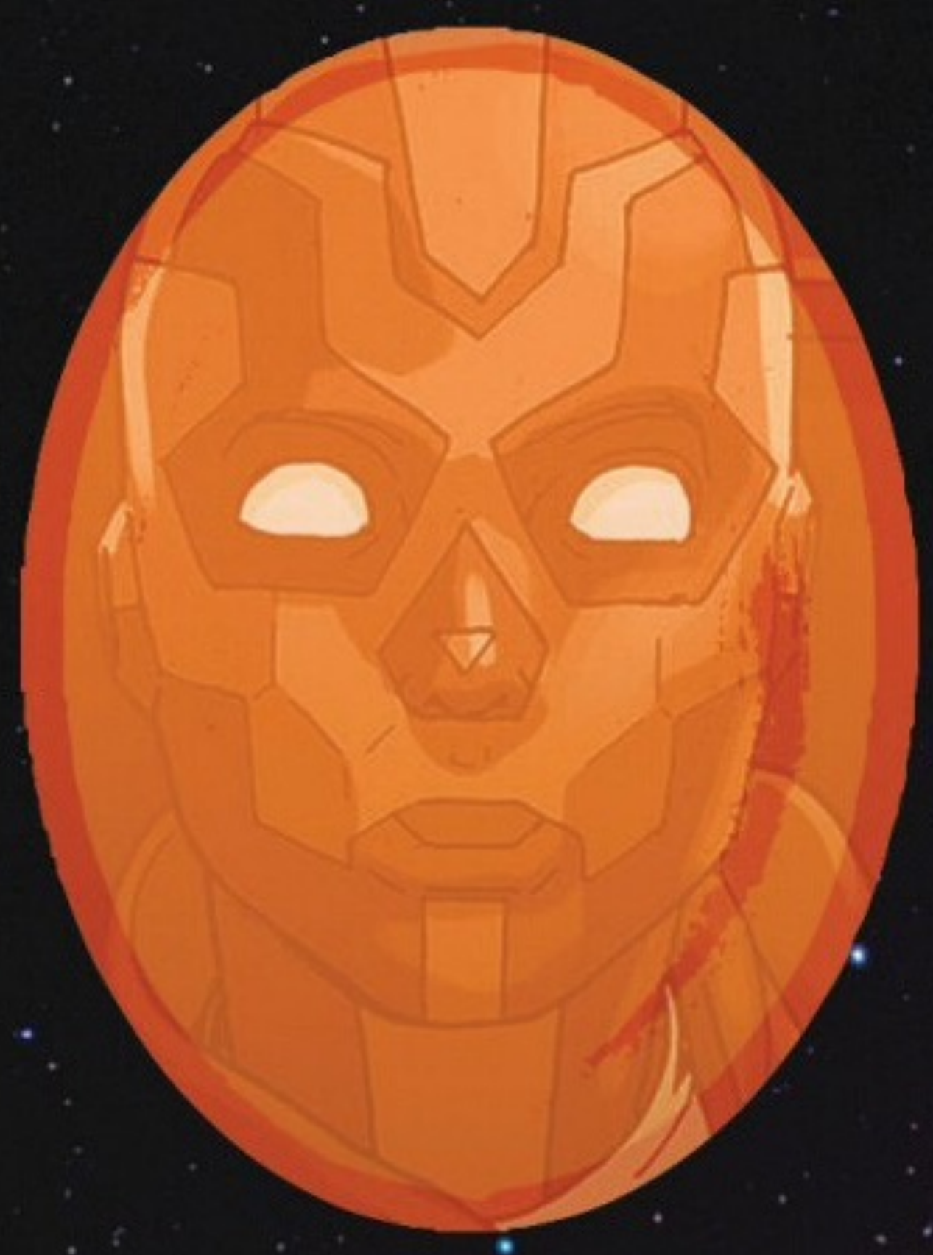
COLLECTING ***INFINITY WATCH (2024) #1-5*** — BY DEREK LANDY, RUAIRÍ COLEMAN, ENID BALÁM, SCOTT HANNA, BRIAN REBER AND ERICK ARCINIEGA.

THE INFINITY WATCH

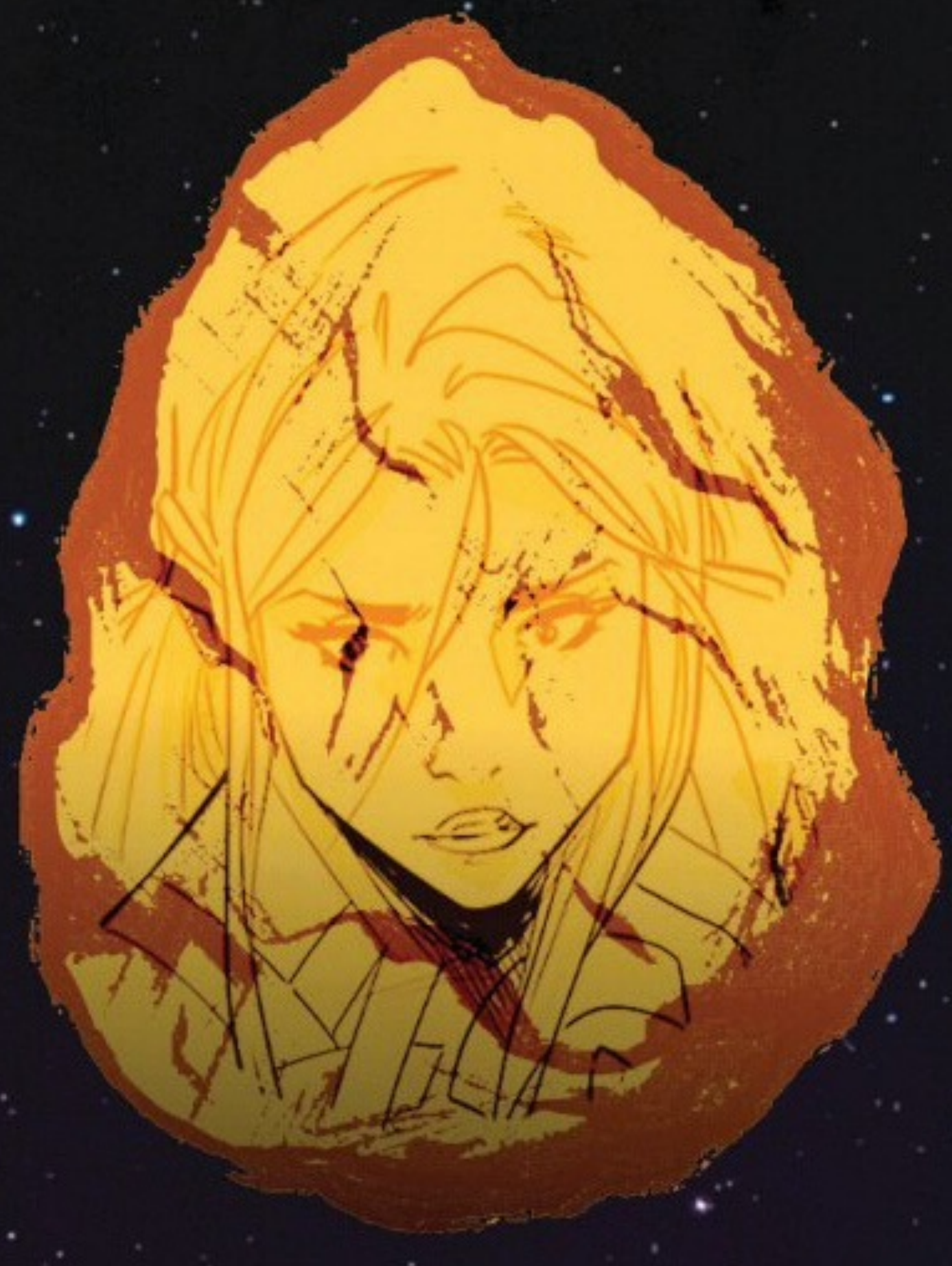
UNIVERSAL DESTRUCTION



STAR
REALITY STONE

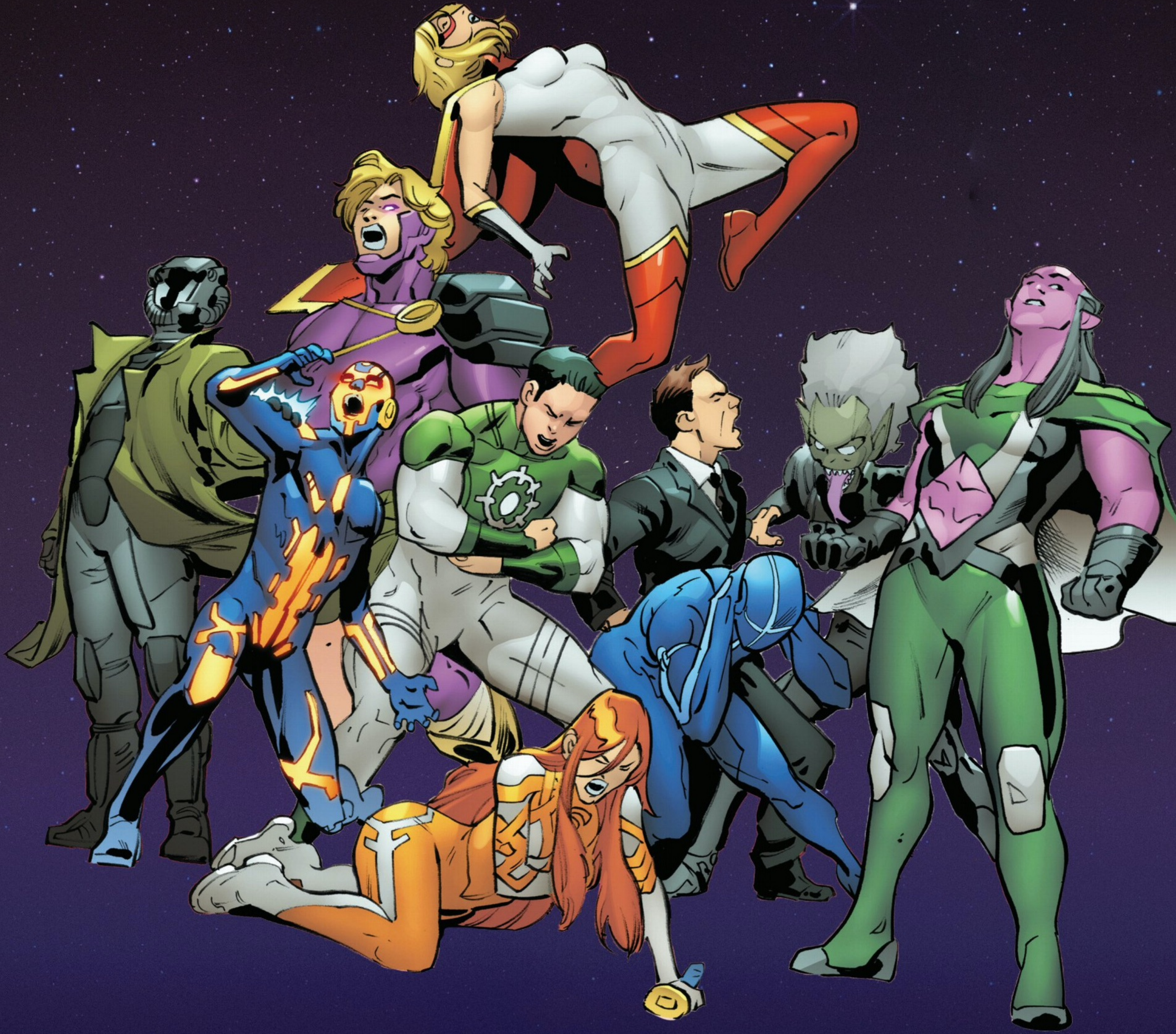


MULTITUDE
SOUL STONE



COLLEEN WING
MIND STONE

Across the universe, powerful artifacts called the INFINITY STONES have bonded to new bearers, granting them power over the very fabric of the cosmos. Together, they are...



© 2025 MARVEL. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental.

OVERTIME
TIME STONE

QUANTUM
SPACE STONE

APEX
POWER STONE

PHIL COULSON
DEATH STONE

THE INFINITY WATCH

UNIVERSAL DESTRUCTION

WRITER: **DEREK LANDY**

#1
PENCILER: **RUAIRÍ COLEMAN**
INKER: **SCOTT HANNA**
COLOR ARTISTS: **BRIAN REBER** & **ERICK ARCINIEGA**

#2-5
ARTISTS: **RUAIRÍ COLEMAN** (#2, #4-5) & **ENID BALÁM** (#2-4)
COLOR ARTIST: **BRIAN REBER**

LETTERER: **VC's CORY PETIT**

COVER ART: **SALVADOR LARROCA & GURU-eFX**

ASSISTANT EDITOR: **KAITLYN LINDTVEDT**

EDITOR: **NICK LOWE**

COLLECTION EDITOR: **DANIEL KIRCHHOFFER**
TALENT RELATIONS SPECIALIST: **LISA MONTALBANO**
DIRECTOR, PRODUCTION & SPECIAL PROJECTS: **JENNIFER GRÜNWALD**
VP, PRODUCTION & SPECIAL PROJECTS: **JEFF YOUNGQUIST**
BOOK DESIGNERS: **STACIE ZUCKER** WITH **KAT WALKINGTON**
MANAGER & SENIOR DESIGNER: **ADAM DEL RE**

LEAD DESIGNER: **JAY BOWEN**
VP, PRINT & DIGITAL PUBLISHING: **DAVID GABRIEL**
SR. MANAGER, DIGITAL: **TIM SMITH 3**
DIGITAL PRODUCTION: **JASMINE ALVAREZ** & **RACHEL YOUNG**
EDITOR IN CHIEF: **C.B. CEBULSKI**

1

WHO ARE WE, AND WHY ARE WE HERE?
THE TWO MOST BASIC, MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS IN LIFE. BUT CONTAINED WITHIN THOSE TWO QUESTIONS IS EVERYTHING YOU'D EVER NEED TO KNOW.
WHO ARE *THEY?* SEVEN NIGH-OMNIPOTENT HOSTS OF THE CORE ELEMENTS OF THE UNIVERSE.
TIME. SPACE. SOUL. MIND. POWER. REALITY. DEATH.
WHY ARE *THEY* HERE? TO USHER IN A NEW AGE OF--
WELL, THIS IS ODD.
DIDN'T KNOW I WAS ABLE TO DO THAT.
OKAY, NOW *I'M* DISTRACTED. *APOLOGIES.*
LET'S GET STRAIGHT TO IT, SHALL WE?

SOMEWHERE IN THE VAST PACIFIC OCEAN, *FAR FROM HUMAN HABITATION...*
WHAT THE HELL IS *THAT?*
I LOVE IT!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS...
...BUT I LOVE IT!
STAR?
HEY, I JUST USED MY INSANELY POWERFUL REALITY-WARPING SKILLS TO MAKE...WHATEVER IT IS. *OVERTIME* DESIGNED IT.
IT'S A *SECRET BASE* ON A *TROPICAL ISLAND.* WHAT'S NOT TO GET?

WE DON'T NEED IT TO BE SECRET. WE ALSO DON'T NEED A ***BASE.***
OF COURSE WE NEED A BASE, COLLEEN!
AND A ***SECRET*** BASE IS THE BEST ***KIND*** OF BASE. DIDN'T YOU EVER WATCH ***THUNDERBIRDS*** AS A KID?
THUNDERBOLTS?
NO.
THUNDERCATS?
NO.
THUNDERBABIES?
THAT'S NOT EVEN A THING, STAR.
I HAVE NEVER WATCHED THESE THUNDER PEOPLE YOU SPEAK OF--ALTHOUGH THE ***GOD*** OF THUNDER IS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF MINE--
--BUT I VOTE TO ***KEEP*** THIS MONSTROSITY!
THANK YOU, APEX!
I DON'T SEE WHAT THE BIG DEAL IS. YOU DON'T LIKE MY SECRET ISLAND BASE? GET YOUR OWN!
WE HAVE THE INFINITY STONES INSIDE US. WE CAN LITERALLY DO WHATEVER WE WANT.

WHY DID YOU HAVE TO GO AND SAY--?
THAT'S SOMETHING WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT.
GREAT. HERE SHE GOES *AGAIN...*
TOGETHER, YEAH, WE HAVE THE POWER OF, LIKE, *GOD.*
SO WE NEED TO FIGURE OUT WHAT OUR MISSION IS.
WE *KNOW* WHAT OUR MISSION IS. SOMETHING BIG IS BOUND TO HAPPEN, AND WE HAVE TO BE READY.
"SOMETHING" IS A BIT VAGUE THOUGH, ISN'T IT?
HEY, WE STONE BEARERS WORK IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS.
YOU'VE GOT TO LEARN TO TRUST IN THE *PROCESS,* WING.
THE STONES PICKED US FOR A REASON. EACH OF US WAS THEIR FIRST AND ONLY CHOICE.
WELL... APART FROM *YOU,* I MEAN.
GUYS, COME ON...
ISN'T IT TIME TO PUT ASIDE OUR DIFFERENCES AND *BOND?*
LOOK AT US-- WE'RE A CLASSIC TEAM!
I'M THE *LOVABLE ROGUE.* QUANTUM IS THE *STRONG, SILENT, SLIGHTLY WEIRD* TYPE.

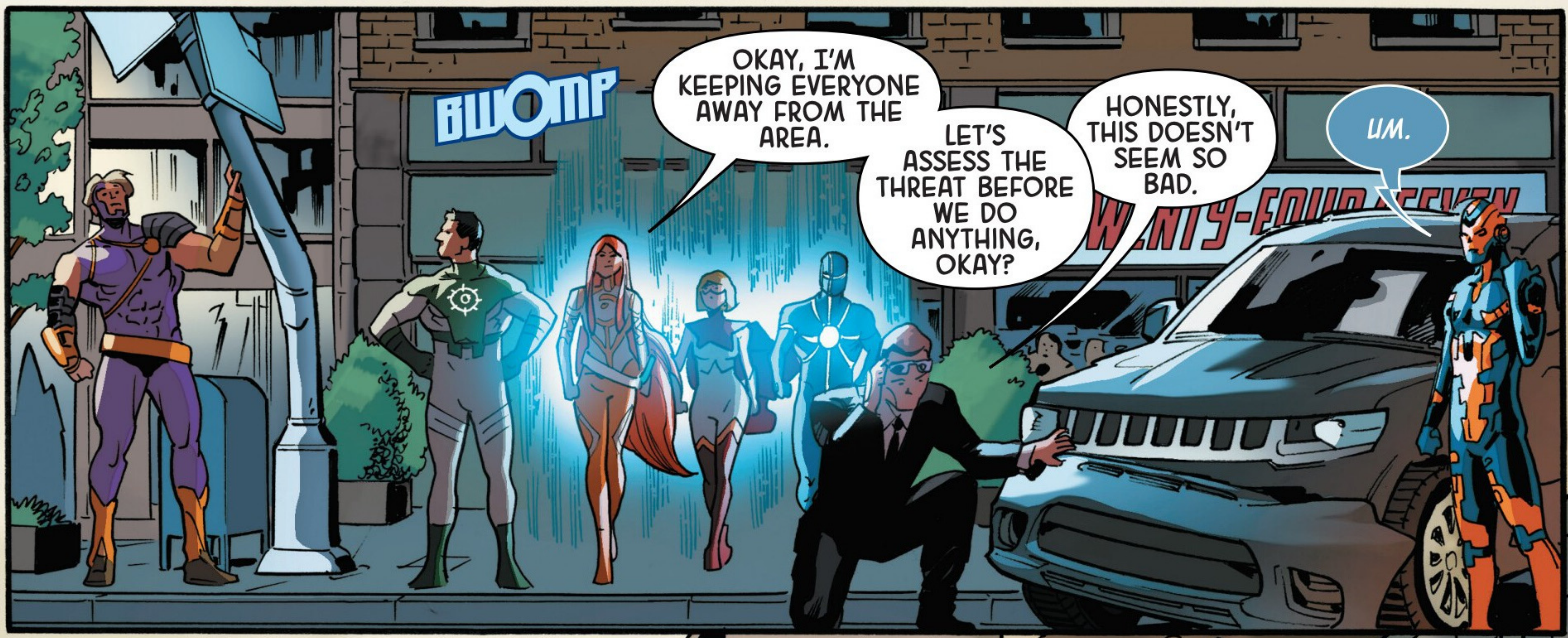
WEIRD?
MULTITUDE'S THE LOST *INNOCENT.* APEX IS THE NICE-BUT-DIM *MUSCLE.*
I *AM* THE MUSCLE.
STAR'S THE *EDGY* ONE. YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT SHE'S GOING TO SAY NEXT!
THESE ARE GOOD DONUTS.
COLLEEN, YOU'RE THE *THOUGHTFUL NINJA* TYPE, DESCENDED FROM A LONG LINE OF SCHOLARS AND SAMURAIS.
THE PLURAL OF *SAMURAI* IS STILL *SAMURAI.*
CORRECTING MY GRAMMAR IS PART OF YOUR CHARM!
MY POINT IS: WE'RE A TEAM OF MISFITS AND ODDBALLS, AND WE HAVE A DESTINY. I DON'T KNOW WHY THE STONES CHOSE US, BUT--
HECTOR? I THINK THE TIME STONE CHOSE **YOU** BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO CHANGE THE PAST.
Y'KNOW, THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD GUESS, WARD. YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT.
SO, DO YOU THINK THE SOUL STONE CHOSE **ME** BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE A SOUL?
THAT'S... THAT'S A BIG QUESTION, LITTLE DUDE.

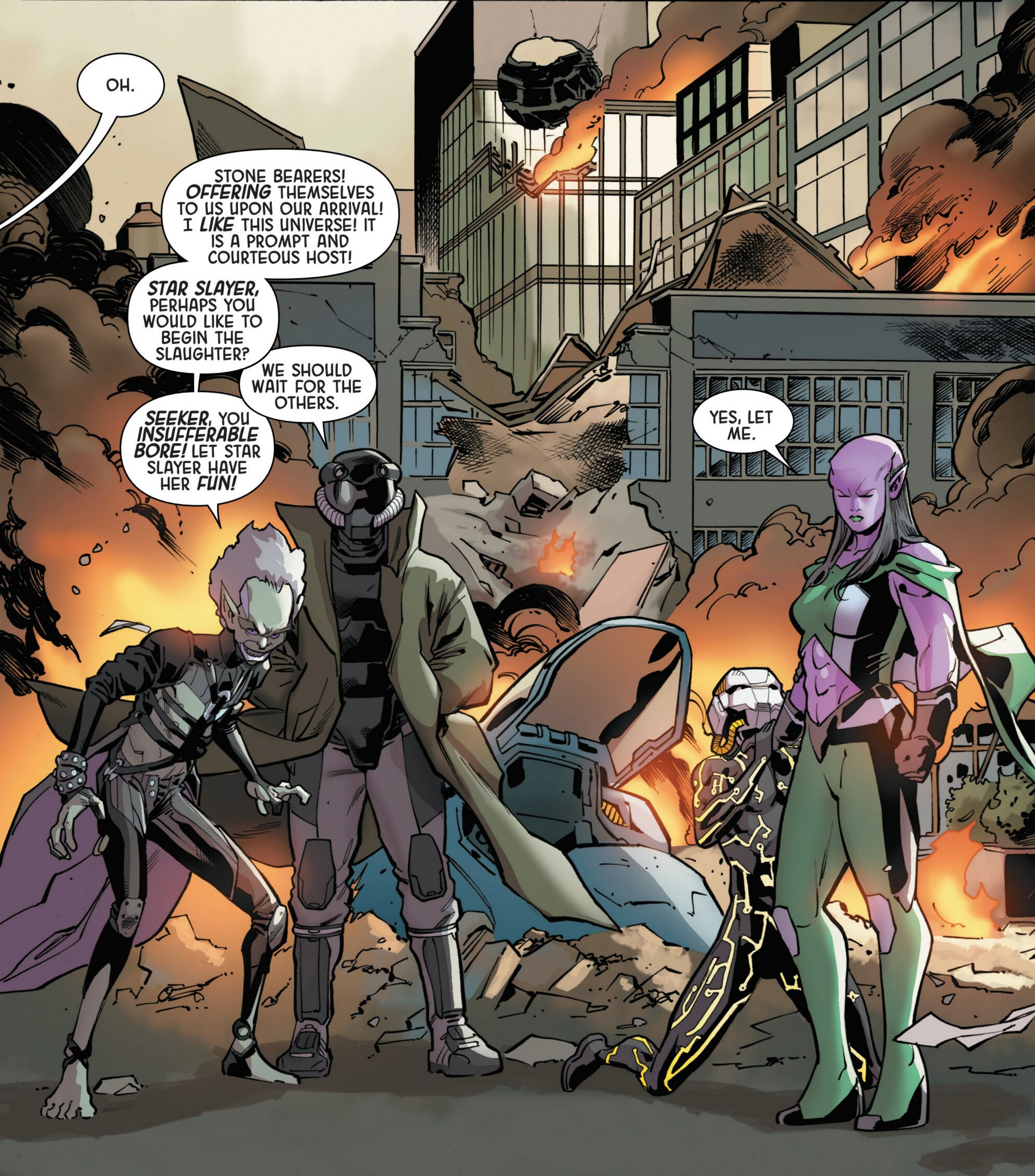
BUT WE'RE "GOD", AREN'T WE? SHOULDN'T WE BE ABLE TO *ANSWER* THAT?
I THINK WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ANSWER THAT.
HEY, *UH*, WHERE'S *COULSON?* ANYONE KNOW?
HOW COME HE'S ALWAYS LATE? HE'S THE EMBODIMENT OF *DEATH*--EVERY SINGLE MINUTE, HE HAS TO BE IN, LIKE--
106 PLACES.
--106 PLACES, AROUND THE WORLD, SIMULTANEOUSLY. HE COULDN'T BE IN *107* PLACES? 107 PLACES WOULD BE TOO MUCH OF A *STRAIN?*
HEY. SORRY I'M LATE.

HOW, *UH*, HOW YOU DOING, BUDDY?
HONESTLY? I'M NOT SLEEPING. AND THIS JOB, IT'S... IT CAN BE ***DEPRESSING,*** YOU KNOW?
UH-HUH. I DON'T MEAN ANY OFFENSE BY THIS, AND IF THIS IS YOUR ***CHOICE,*** THEN I'M ***TOTALLY*** BEHIND IT, BUT YOU'RE THE ***GRIM REAPER.***
YES.
NO, I MEAN, YOU'RE THE ***GRIM REAPER***, DUDE.
OH. ***OH!*** SORRY! SOME OF THE RECENTLY DECEASED EXPECT A CERTAIN-- ***ANYWAY.***
THERE. THAT'S BETTER. SO, ARE WE PICKING UP WHERE THE LAST MEETING LEFT OFF, OR--?
I THINK, ACTUALLY, COLLEEN HAS SOMETHING TO SAY.
I DO?
DON'T YOU?
COLLEEN, WE ***TALKED*** ABOUT THIS.
I... GUESS I DO.

I WANT TO, *UH,* APOLOGIZE TO *STAR.* DURING THE LAST MEETING, I GOT A LITTLE...*COMBATIVE,* SHALL WE SAY.
SHALL WE?
I WAS RUDE AND PATRONIZING.
THAT'S BIG OF YOU. ADMITTING TO THOSE *HUGE CHARACTER FLAWS* THAT MAKE YOU *INCREDIBLY UNLIKABLE*...THAT TAKES GUTS.
THANKS?
BUT YOUR CHARACTER FLAWS, OF WHICH THOSE ARE BUT TWO, AREN'T WHY I DISLIKE YOU, COLLEEN. I DISLIKE YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE *CONTROLLING MY MIND.*
WHAT?
I AM *REALITY.* I AM *CREATION* AND *DESTRUCTION.* I'M A *GOD,* COLLEEN, AND I'VE GOT BIG PLANS.
BUT SO FAR? THE BIGGEST THING I'VE DONE IS CREATE A SECRET HEADQUARTERS WE *DON'T NEED.*
AND YOU THINK *I'M* RESPONSIBLE?
YOU'VE PUT A STRAITJACKET ON MY THOUGHTS SO THAT I WON'T CROSS A LINE WITHOUT YOUR *APPROVAL.*

I'M NOT DOING *ANYTHING* TO YOU, STAR.
UNDERSTAND THIS: THE MOMENT YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN, I'M CHANGING THE DAMN *WORLD.*
WOOOOOOP WOOOOOOP
WHAT THE HELL?
THAT'S AN ALERT.
WE'RE BEING *ALERTED!*
THE INFINITY WATCH IS NEEDED!
WHOA, WHOA, *WHOA,* WE NEVER AGREED TO *THIS!*
WE'RE *NOT* HEROES!
SORRY, FOLKS, BUT IF I'M READING THIS RIGHT--AND I HAVE NO IDEA IF I *AM*--THEN THERE'S A *SITUATION* IN NEW YORK!
ARE YOU IN?
ARE YOU IN?!
DO WE HAVE TO BE?


BWOMP
OKAY, I'M KEEPING EVERYONE AWAY FROM THE AREA.
LET'S ASSESS THE THREAT BEFORE WE DO ANYTHING, OKAY?
HONESTLY, THIS DOESN'T SEEM SO BAD.
UM.


OH.
STONE BEARERS! *OFFERING* THEMSELVES TO US UPON OUR ARRIVAL! I *LIKE* THIS UNIVERSE! IT IS A PROMPT AND COURTEOUS HOST!
STAR SLAYER, PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN THE SLAUGHTER?
WE SHOULD WAIT FOR THE OTHERS.
SEEKER, YOU *INSUFFERABLE BORE!* LET STAR SLAYER HAVE HER *FUN!*
YES, LET ME.

THE BIG ONE APPROACHES!
I SHALL GREET HER WITH PUNCHES!
APEX, COME ON, MAN--WE GOTTA LEARN TO WORK TOGETHER ON STUFF LIKE THIS!
GOOD TIDINGS TO YOU! I ADMIRE YOUR CAPE! MY NAME IS--
THIS ONE IS AN IDIOT.
WHAM
I HAVE BEEN HIT HARDER. BUT NOT BY MANY.
NOW CAN WE WORK TOGETHER?
WE'RE NOT THE AVENGERS, OVERTIME. WE'RE WAY COOLER.
CHAINS! HOW ADORABLE!
STAR SLAYER! SEEKER! LOOK! SHE'S USING CHAINS!
AND WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

ME? MY NAME IS *INFLICT.*
HOW DO YOU DO?
ZZHHORMMM
GUYS, COME ON! WE GOTTA COHERE! BE LIKE THE AVENGERS!
LIKE THE AVENGERS... OKAY.
I MEAN...OKAY, I GUESS THAT'S WORKING. THANKS, MULTITUDE.
CRASH
WARD!

COULSON! YOU PLANNING ON HELPING OUT AT ALL?
IS THERE A NONLETHAL SETTING FOR MY DEATH POWERS?
I INTEND NOT TO FIND OUT. WHAT MANNER OF--?
WOOSH
A DEATH BOLT. HEY, MAYBE THAT COULD BE MY NAME!
DEATHBOLT!
YOU'RE COULSON. YOU DON'T NEED--
UNN!
BWOMP
BWOMP

BWOMP
OH, I SEE.
YOU THINK YOU'RE THE FIRST *TELEPORTER* I'VE FACED.
ZZZHH
ZZHORRRM
CALL OFF YOUR FRIENDS.
GRRRAAAAGHHH!
WOOOSH
SERIOUSLY. CALL OFF YOUR FRIENDS.
YOU DON'T WANT ME TO GO UP TO *ELEVEN.*

WE HAVE NOT SEEN *YOUR* LIKE BEFORE, STONE BEARER.
YOU ARE OF INTEREST TO US.
KILL HIM, COULSON!
CALL OFF YOUR--
WHAT?
BWOMP
WHAM
EVERYBODY, CHILL--I'LL FREEZE THIS GUY IN TIME, AND WE'LL GO FROM--
WAIT. WHAT'S HAPPENING?
IT'S NOT WORKING!
IT'S NOT WORKING!
AHHH...THERE IS NOTHING MORE NOURISHING THAN *TIME.*

KRAK
UNHAND MY FRIEND!
WE MUST COHERE, YES? LIKE WHEN WE FACED THE MAD TITAN.
YOU'RE RIGHT. APEX IS RIGHT! WHICH IS WEIRD. BUT--
FOCUS! FOCUS AND REACH OUT! FIND EACH OTHER AND CHANNEL YOUR--
THERE.
THAT'S BETTER.

NOW WE ARE ONE.
NOW WE ARE THE UNIVERSE.
NOW YOU WILL LEARN WHAT IT IS TO FEAR **GOD,** YOU INSIGNIFICANT--

WHY ARE THEY SMILING?
OUR POWER! THEY'RE DRAINING OUR POWER!
NYAAGGH!
ARRGGHH!
VICTORY, MY FRIENDS. VICTORY IS--
NO!
SLITCH
GAHH!
STAR-SLAYER!
WHAM
UGH!

SEEKER. TO THE OTHERS!
NO! YOU WILL DIE *HERE!*
NO!!!
WHIFFF
OKAY, BUDDY, YOU'VE GOT THREE OF OUR EARTH SECONDS TO EXPLAIN WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE OR--
STOP!
YOU REALLY WANNA DO THIS TO THE PEOPLE WHO JUST CAME TO YOUR RESCUE?

I...AM SORRY.
PLEASE... PLEASE HELP ME.
MY NAME IS *AVERY ZAVALA.*
IN MY UNIVERSE, I'M LIKE YOU. I'M A... I'M A *STONE BEARER.*
YOU HAVE STONE BEARERS *TOO?*
I THOUGHT *THIS* DIMENSION WAS THE ONLY ONE WITH STONE BEARERS.

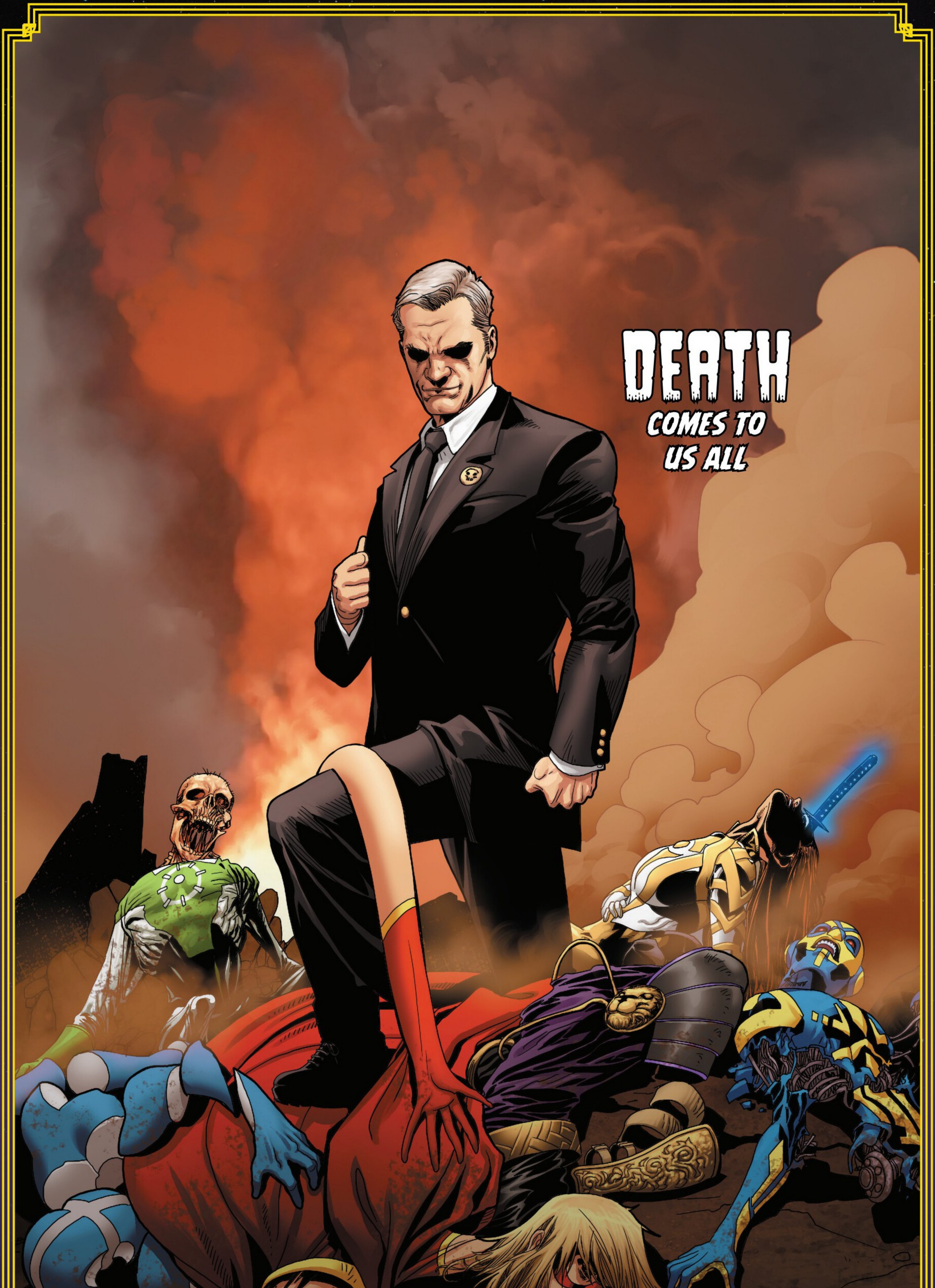
THERE ARE OTHERS OUT THERE, BUT ONLY A VERY FEW.
IT'S WHY I CAME HERE.
MY FELLOW STONE BEARERS, THEY'RE...
THIS SWORD IS THE ONLY THING THAT CAN HURT **THE APEIRON**-- WE BUILT IT UTILIZING THE FULL MIGHT OF OUR INFINITY POWERS-- BUT I WAS TOO LATE TO SAVE MY FRIENDS.
THEY'RE **DEAD.**
THE APEIRON? THAT'S WHO WE WERE FIGHTING?
IF THE STONE BEARERS WERE KILLED, WERE THE **INFINITY STONES** DESTROYED?
IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?
THE APEIRON **CONSUMED** THE STONE BEARERS AND THE INFINITY STONES WITHIN THEM.
"CONSUMED"?

THAT'S HORRIBLE AND ALL, BUT WE'RE GONNA NEED MORE OF THAT STEEL IF THOSE GUYS EVER DECIDE TO COME BACK.
IT WILL TAKE TOO LONG TO TEACH YOU ALL HOW TO MAKE SIMILAR WEAPONS. THE APEIRON WILL DESTROY IT.
DESTROY THE STEEL?
DESTROY THE *UNIVERSE.*
AND YOU CAME HERE FOR OUR HELP?
MR. ZAVALA, I'M SORRY FOR YOUR *UNIMAGINABLE* LOSS, BUT INFINITY STONES ONLY HAVE POWER IN THEIR OWN DIMENSION.
NO, YOU'RE WRONG. STONE BEARERS ARE *DIFFERENT.* WE TAKE OUR POWER *WITH US.*
AND WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO DO? *FIGHT* THEM?
IF THOSE APEIRON GUYS ATE YOUR FRIENDS, WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THEY WON'T EAT *US?*
THEY COULD NEVER EAT *ME!* I AM *MORE* THAN A *PALTRY MOUTHFUL!*
YOU'VE SEEN WHAT THIS SWORD CAN DO. WE CAN KILL THEM. WE CAN KILL *ALL OF THEM.* AND WHEN WE'RE DONE...
WHEN I FLED MY REALITY, I TOOK *EVERY LAST SOUL* WITH ME.

EVERY...? BUT THAT HAS TO BE--
AGONY. YES. I CAN'T EVEN ACCESS MY POWER WITHOUT YOUR HELP.
AND I DO *NEED* YOUR HELP. ALL OF YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU ASKING US TO DO?
I...I WANT YOU TO BUILD MY PEOPLE A *NEW* UNIVERSE.
YOU CAN DO IT. I *KNOW* YOU CAN.
AND ONCE YOU POPULATE IT WITH LIFE-FORMS, I CAN TRANSPLANT THE SOULS I CARRY *INTO* THOSE BODIES AND--
WE'D BE GOD. I KNOW I SAID I WAS A GOD BUT...WE'D *ACTUALLY* BE GOD.
YES. YES, YOU WOULD.
I MEAN...OKAY--EVEN *I* FEEL BAD SAYING THIS TO YOU--BUT...THIS SOUNDS LIKE A WHOLE LOAD OF *HASSLE.*
AND *RESPONSIBILITY.*
HASSLE AND *RESPONSIBILITY.* I LIKE THE IDEA OF BEING GOD, BUT I REALLY THINK WE SHOULD WORK OUR WAY *UP* TO THAT, YOU KNOW? WE CAN'T *START* THERE.

MR. ZAVALA, HI.
WE'D LOVE TO HELP, BUT...WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT KIND OF, YOU KNOW, RULES OF EXISTENCE WE'D BE BREAKING OR WHAT IT WOULD MEAN FOR US.
PLEASE. PLEASE. I'M BEGGING YOU.
THIS IS MY HOME WE'RE TALKING ABOUT. PLEASE SAVE MY HOME.
WE'RE GOING TO NEED YOU TO SLOW DOWN AT THE VERY LEAST SO WE CAN TALK IT THROUGH. BUT, REGRETTABLY, WE CAN'T--
"REGRETTABLY". REGRETTABLY, YOU CAN'T. I SEE.
REGRETTABLY, THEN, I'LL HAVE TO RESORT TO PLAN B, WHERE I TAKE YOUR INFINITY STONES AND JUST OVERWRITE MY UNIVERSE ONTO THIS ONE.
UH...LISTEN, WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE UPSET, BUT WE LITERALLY HAVE THE POWER OF EXISTENCE AT OUR FINGERTIPS.
I DON'T NEED ALL OF THE INFINITY STONES TO TAKE YOU DOWN THOUGH. I ONLY NEED THE MIND STONE.
PFFFT. THERE'S NO WAY MIND STONE TRUMPS REALITY STONE.
EVEN IF THAT'S TRUE, SO WHAT? COLLEEN'S STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.
YOU DON'T GET IT. YOU DON'T APPRECIATE THE KIND OF STORY YOU'RE IN.
STORY? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
COLLEEN WING ISN'T STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

I KILLED COLLEEN WING BEFORE WE EVEN STARTED THIS CONVERSATION.
YOU CALL YOURSELVES "GODS" BUT YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO YOU'RE DEALING WITH, DO YOU?
YOU PEOPLE ARE *ALREADY DEAD.*


DEATH
COMES TO
US ALL

MOMENTS AGO...
OKAY, BUDDY, YOU'VE GOT THREE OF OUR EARTH SECONDS TO EXPLAIN WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE OR--
WAIT, WHAT-- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOU'RE LATCHING ONTO MY POWER.
HOW ARE YOU--?
I'M VERY SORRY.
IN MY UNIVERSE, I WAS ALSO THE ***MIND STONE BEARER.*** BUT I WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH.
THE APEIRON COULD RETURN AT ANY MOMENT, AND I NEED YOUR STRENGTH.
SHLUTCH
I PROMISE, IF YOUR FRIENDS DO AS I ASK--
--I WON'T HARM THEM.

NOW.
WHY COULDN'T YOU HAVE JUST DONE AS I ASKED?
OVERTIME! *REVERSE TIME* BEFORE ZAVALA--
I--COULSON, I CAN'T REMEMBER *HOW!*
OF COURSE YOU CAN'T--NOT WHEN *I* CONTROL THE *MIND STONE.*
POOR APEX CAN BARELY REMEMBER HOW TO *MOVE.*
I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING!
SHUKK
THIS BRINGS ME NO JOY, OVERTIME.
BUT THINGS WOULD GO A LOT SMOOTHER IF YOU DIDN'T TRY TO *FIGHT.*

SMOOTHER THAN THE *PASTE* I'M ABOUT TO *POUND YOU INTO,* $%@&?
STAY RIGHT THERE A MOMENT, WILL YOU?
YOU, MISTER COULSON.
YOU ARE HOST TO AN INFINITY STONE I HAVE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.
YOUR POWER MIGHT BE THE *ANSWER* THAT'S BEEN ELUDING ME ALL THIS TIME.
YEAH, MY POWER'S PRETTY COOL, ALL RIGHT...
...UNLESS YOU'RE ON THE RECEIVING END OF A *DEATH BLAST.*
STAY DOWN, MR. ZAVALA.
YOU'VE FORCED ME TO SAP EVERY LAST BIT OF LIFE FROM YOUR BODY.
THIS WOULD--
THIS WOULD *END ME,* I THINK...

...HAD I NOT *TIME* ON MY SIDE.
UNLIKE *YOU*, I'M AFRAID.
YOU SHALL...
...*NOT* HURT ANY...
...MORE OF MY...
...FRIENDS.
UGHHHH.
I KNOW IT'S NOT FAIR, BUT IF IT MAKES YOU FEEL ANY BETTER, *THIS* IS WHERE I'LL STOP THE APEIRON FROM DESTROYING ALL EXISTENCE.
NO MORE UNIVERSES SHALL FALL BEFORE THEM.
YOUR SACRIFICE WILL NOT BE IN VAIN.

I CAN'T... I CAN'T THINK OF ANYONE TO HELP ME...
YOUR MIND IS FASCINATING, MULTITUDE.
AN ARTIFICIAL GENERATOR OF GENUINE *THOUGHT.*
I WISH I COULD SIT AND TALK WITH YOU ABOUT YOUR EXISTENCE, SYNTHEZOID.
CAPTAIN... CAPTAIN...
A MAN WITH A SHIELD...
AH *AH.*
NO CHEATING.
SHNK
I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MOMENT, STAR.

AH, QUANTUM.
THIS ALL STARTED WITH THE *SPACE STONE*, YOU KNOW.
THE APEIRON, THEY WERE THE *STONE BEARERS* OF THEIR UNIVERSE.
SIX DISPARATE HEROES THROWN TOGETHER IN SERVICE TO A GRAND DESTINY.
THE SPACE STONE BEARER, *SEEKER,* HE BROUGHT THEM TO THE EDGE OF THEIR UNIVERSE.
AND WHEN THEY SAW THE *HORROR* THAT AWAITED THEM, THE HORROR THEY WERE EXPECTED TO *FIGHT,* THEY CHOSE INSTEAD TO *RUN.*
SEEKER BROKE THE RULES. HE SKIPPED TO THE *END* OF THE STORY.
YOU CAN'T DO THAT. THAT'S NOT HOW ANY OF THIS *WORKS.*
SHUK

DID YOU *SEE* IT, STAR?
WHEN YOU AND YOUR FELLOW STONE BEARERS WERE LINKED, DID YOU GLIMPSE THE *TRUTH* OF YOUR UNIVERSE?
YEAH. I DID, YOU #$&@-BIRD.
NOW GET OUT... OF MY $@%& HEAD...
OF COURSE. YOU DESERVE TO THINK YOUR OWN THOUGHTS IN YOUR FINAL MOMENTS.
IT'S SO REFRESHING TO TALK TO SOMEONE WHO KNOWS THE TRUTH AS I DO.
IT'S WONDERFUL, ISN'T IT? ONCE YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT WE ARE, THE POSSIBILITIES ARE... *STAGGERING.*
YEAH. SO @$#% STAGGERING.

GUHH!
THANK YOU. SINCERELY.
AND PLEASE KNOW THAT BEFORE I OVERWRITE MY UNIVERSE ONTO THIS ONE, I'M GOING TO USE IT TO DRAW THE APEIRON INTO A TRAP.
A TRAP THAT WILL FINALLY *END* THEIR *RAMPAGE OF DESTRUCTION* AND--
SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN ME MY MIND BACK, %@&$#!
NO!

YOU'RE A REAL #$&%@ IDIOT!
NO!

MANHATTAN, NEW YORK.
YEAH, YEAH, I KNOW--
--HARRY OSBORN HAS MISSED ANOTHER MEETING.
BUT IF THE OH-SO-PERFECT COLLEEN WING COULD JUST CUT HER BOSS A LITTLE SLACK EVERY NOW AND THEN--
A LITTLE SLACK? A LITTLE?
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
WORKING. I SWEAR.
MISS RYAN ASSIGNED A SPECIAL PROJECT TO PETE AND ME AND--
PARKER. OF COURSE YOUR FLAKY HIGH SCHOOL FRIEND IS INVOLVED.
OKAY, FIRST OF ALL, PETE ISN'T FLAKY, EXACTLY. HIS PRIORITIES ARE JUST--
I DON'T ACTUALLY CARE, HARRY. WHAT'S THE SPECIAL PROJECT?
BEFORE I TELL YOU, YOU'RE GONNA NEED THIS COFFEE.
MR. OSBORN.

I'D LIKE A WORD!
HARRY! LOOK OUT!
THAT COMPANY YOU WORK FOR UNCOVERED A VERY PARTICULAR PIGSTICKER A FEW DAYS AGO, HARRY M'BOY--
--I WANNA KNOW WHERE IT IS.
I--I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE--
GET THE HELL AWAY FROM HIM, YOU--
YOU STAY RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE, YOUNG LADY.
NO HEROICS. NOT TODAY.
IF YOU DON'T TELL ME WHERE THE SWORD IS, I'M GONNA SHOOT YOUR PRETTY FRIEND--
--AND THEN I'M GONNA DO WHAT YOUR DEAR OLD DAD SHOULD HAVE DONE A LONG TIME AGO AND--
INCREASE HIS ALLOWANCE?

BECAUSE THAT'D BE *REALLY NICE* OF YOU.
SPIDER-MAN!

ARE WE SERIOUSLY STILL *DOING* THIS?
YELLING EACH OTHER'S NAME WHENEVER WE MEET?
HOBGOBLIN!
HAPPY NOW?
YOU WANT IT, DON'T YOU?
"IT"?
THE SWORD.
YOU HEARD WHAT HAPPENED.
THAT *THE VULTURE FLEW.*
YEAH. I HEARD.
BUT MY QUESTION IS WHO THE HELL TOLD *YOU?*
HEH.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S COMING FOR YOU, YOU ANNOYING LITTLE--

WHAT?
WHAT?!
THHAPP
YOU LIKE IT? IT'S NEW!
I FIGURED SPIDER-MAN SHOULD HAVE SOME WEBS, RIGHT?
THHAPP
CAREFUL. THEY'RE GOOPY.
THHAPP
YOU RIDICULOUS--
$@& YOU, SPIDER-MAN!
WOOOOOO
AND THAT'S THE COPS! I'M OUTTA HERE!
STAY SAFE, CITIZENS!
HARRY? WHAT THE @%$&?
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY COME WITH ME.

ALCATRAZ FEDERAL PENITENTIARY, SAN FRANCISCO.
I NEED TO SEE THE WARDEN!
YOU CAN'T JUST BARGE--
ARE YOU GOING TO *STOP ME,* FITZ? WITH YOUR *TINY ARMS?*
I THINK NOT!
WARDEN COULSON, MY FRIEND!
THE TABLET DEMANDS TO SPEAK TO YOU!
I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT I'M ACTUALLY YOUR *BOSS--*
APEX
CAPTAIN APEX, WE'RE DEALING WITH A POSSIBLE NETWORK BREACH--EVEN THOUGH TONY STARK *HIMSELF* DESIGNED THESE FIREWALLS--SO I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR--
THE TABLET DEMANDS!

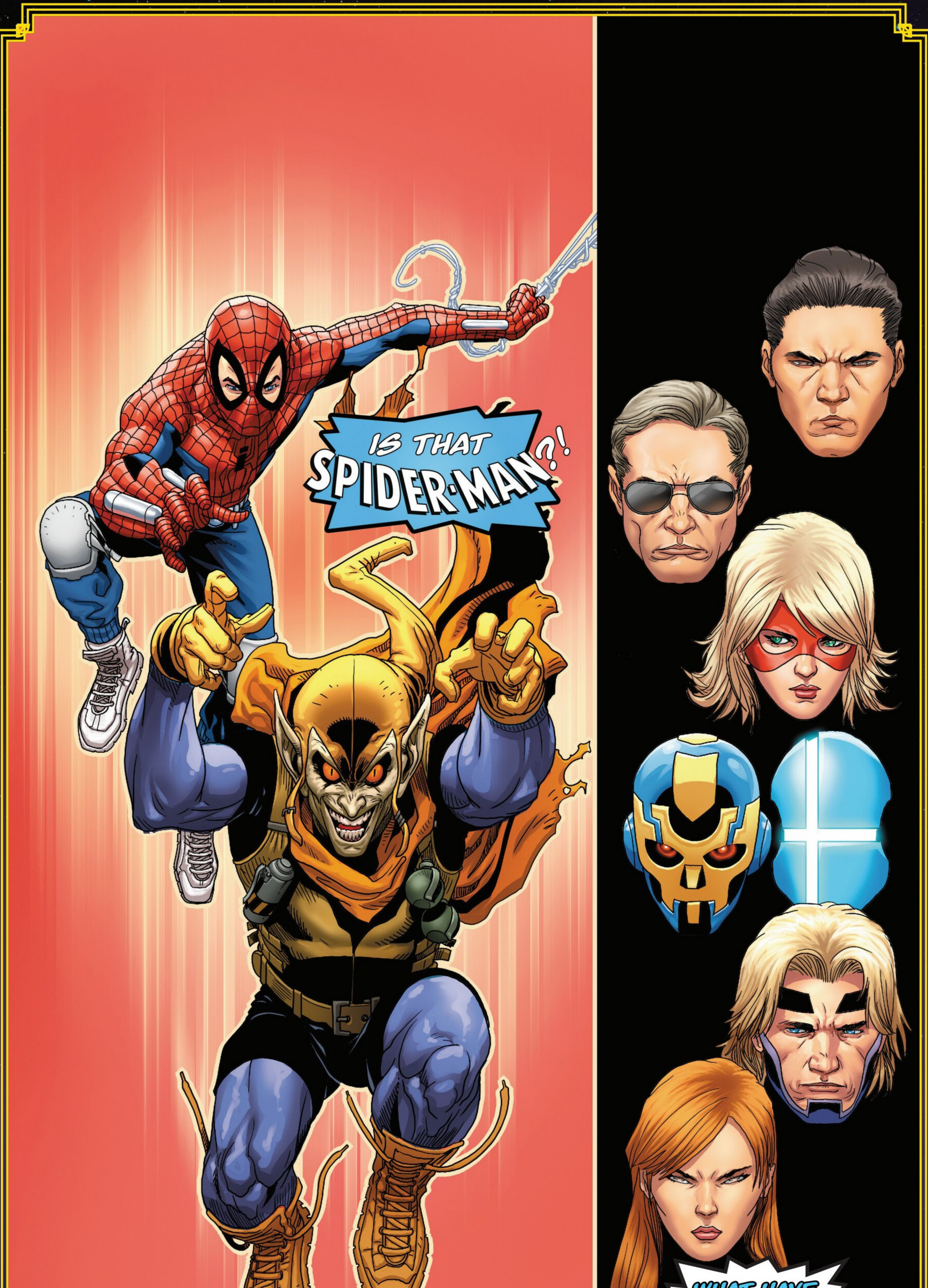
AH.
DOCTOR DOOM.
I ASSUME OUR TECH OUTAGE IS YOUR HANDIWORK?
WARDEN COULSON, WE'RE BOTH BUSY PEOPLE-- YOU'RE RUNNING A PRISON, I'M RUNNING A COUNTRY--SO I'LL GET STRAIGHT TO THE POINT.
YOU WILL RELEASE THE PRISONER IN SUB-CELL EIGHT IMMEDIATELY, OR THE WRECKING CREW, BACKED UP BY HYDRA AND A FRANKLY IRRESPONSIBLE ASSORTMENT OF PSYCHOPATHS--
--WILL MURDER YOU AND EVERY SINGLE PERSON IN UNIFORM BEFORE THE HOUR IS UP.
IF YOUR ANSWER IS ANYTHING OTHER THAN "I OBEY," THEN THE ORDER WILL BE GIVEN.
...YOUR MASK IS DUMB.
CAPTAIN APEX, PREPARE TO REPEL INVADERS.
BEEP
VIOLENCE APPROACHES?
I SHALL MEET IT WITH VIOLENCE.

QUEENS, NEW YORK.
REPORTS OF MULTIPLE ATTACKERS AS LAW ENFORCEMENT RUSHES TO THE PRISON. THE MAYOR--
HEY, WARD. TURN THAT OFF FOR A SECOND, WOULD YOU? THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.
HECTOR, WHY ARE YOU WEARING A TIE?
UH, WELL, I FIGURED I'D BETTER DRESS UP.
WHY?
BECAUSE, UM... YOUR MOM AND I ARE, YOU KNOW, WE'RE VERY HAPPY TOGETHER. I LOVE HER, AND SHE LOVES ME.
AND I LOVE YOU TOO, DUDE. I THINK WE REALLY GET ALONG, DON'T WE?
I GUESS.
SO I WAS THINKING MAYBE THE TWO OF YOU MOVE IN WITH ME. AT MY PLACE. AND MAYBE YOUR MOM AND I WILL GET MARRIED.
HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT?
WOULD YOU BE MY DAD?
IF YOU... IF YOU WERE COOL WITH IT, YEAH.

BUT... BUT THIS IS *WRONG.*
OH. I SEE. WELL... OH.
MAYBE IF YOU TAKE SOME *TIME* TO THINK IT *OVER--*
OR MAYBE JUST TAKE YOUR BOWL TO THE KITCHEN. THAT'S COOL TOO.
BZZZZZz
I THINK YOU BETTER GET THAT, HECTOR.
HECTOR BAUTISTA?
THAT'S ME.
QUANTUM DELIVERY, GOT A PACKAGE--
WAIT... DO I *KNOW* YOU?

A *SWORD,* HARRY?
RIPLEY RYAN SENT YOU TO INVESTIGATE HER STOLEN SWORD? WHY DOES *SHE* HAVE A SWORD?! SHE'S NOT A SWORD PERSON!
PLEASE DON'T SHOUT AT ME. I'VE ALREADY BEEN ATTACKED *ONCE* TODAY AND I CAN'T--
NO.
IT'S *GONE!*
WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT IT? IS IT ESPECIALLY OLD? ESPECIALLY EXPENSIVE?
NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT. THE SWORD IS...
IT'S...
MAGIC.
ALL PROPRIETARY OF *RYAN INDUSTRIES,* OF COURSE.
I HAVE THE SWORD, HARRY. FAR FROM HERE.
RIPLEY! BUT WHY--?
BECAUSE I'M THE BOSS, STUPID.

SUB CELL
8
TWINKLE, TWINKLE, LITTLE *STAR*...
...WHAT *HAVE* YOU DONE?


IS THAT SPIDER-MAN?!
WHAT HAVE THESE SIX DONE?!

MY...
MY LORD *ZAVALA*...
ALCATRAZ.
SAN FRANCISCO.
VICTOR VON DOOM BOWS BEFORE YOU.
MY THOUGHTS... THEY COME BACK TO ME.
THE REALITY STONE BEARER--*STAR*--TRIED TO IMPRISON ME HERE AND DENY ME MY MEMORIES.
BUT AS SHE CREATED THIS UNIVERSE--ON THE CUSP OF DEATH--I MANAGED A LAST-MINUTE EDIT TO HER DESIGNS.
I MADE THE VILLAINS OF THIS WORLD MY DEVOTED SUBJECTS.

TO YOUR FEET, MY NOBLE FRIEND. YOU HAVE DONE WELL, AND YOUR LOYALTY WILL BE REWARDED.
WHAT OF THE WARDEN?
WARDEN COULSON AND HIS CHIEF CORRECTIONS OFFICER, AN IMBECILE NAMED **APEX,** WERE LAST SEEN FIGHTING THROUGH A CROWD OF CONVICTS ON THE LOWER LEVELS.
THEY MAY HAVE ESCAPED THE ISLAND.
NOW THAT I AM FREE, MY MEMORIES ARE RETURNING, AND MY AWARENESS IS SPREADING.
THAT IS UNFORTUNATE BUT NOT UNEXPECTED.
AND THE ***INFINITY BLADE?***
I HAVE YET TO HEAR IF YOUR ACOLYTES HAVE SUCCEEDED IN RECOVERING IT.
IF YOU HAD ASSIGNED THAT TASK TO ***ME--***
I NEEDED YOU ***HERE,*** VICTOR.
RETRIEVING THE SWORD IS POINTLESS UNLESS I AM FREE TO WIELD IT.
YOU'VE ARRANGED MY TRANSPORT?
ALL WE NEED IS YOUR DESTINATION, MY LORD.
NEW YORK.

SOUTH OF SAN FRANCISCO.
THIS IS CERTAINLY A *CAR,* COULSON.
THANKS. HER NAME IS *LOLA.*
I LIKE LOLA--BUT UNLESS SHE CAN FLY, I DOUBT SHE'LL GET US TO NEW YORK QUICKLY ENOUGH.
WHICH IS WHY WE'RE HEADED TO A PRIVATE AIRFIELD, OWNED BY A FRIEND OF MINE.
YOU HAVE A FRIEND WHO OWNS A *PRIVATE AIRFIELD?*
IT'S ALWAYS A GOOD IDEA TO KNOW PEOPLE IN HIGH PLACES, APEX, AND THEY DON'T COME MUCH HIGHER THAN--
--TONY STARK!
TONY?
HELLO?
PHIL?
I'VE LOST IT ALL, PHIL.
MY COMPANY, MY HOMES, MY WORK...
THE GOVERNMENT WANTS MY EXO-ARMOR. THEY... THEY *RUINED* ME, THEY...
IS THAT *BLOOD?*
THERE'S BEEN A PRISON BREAK, TONY. IT'S BAD.
WE NEED TO BORROW YOUR *JET.*

NOT *MY* JET. NOT ANYMORE.
I'M SUPPOSED TO HAND OVER THE KEYS TO A BUNCH OF *ACCOUNTANTS* WHEN THEY TURN UP.
WE NEED IT, TONY. I CAN'T EXPLAIN *WHY,* BUT--
WE HAVE AN *UNACCOUNTABLE NEED* TO GET TO THE BIG APPLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
HELLO.
I MEAN... YEAH.
THAT'S *APEX,* BY THE WAY.
SO YOU WANT TO TAKE MY EX-JET TO NEW YORK, IMMEDIATELY AFTER A PRISON BREAK, WHILE THE GOVERNMENT IS SEIZING MY ASSETS--
--BECAUSE OF AN *UNEXPLAINABLE COMPULSION?*
YES.
DO YOU NEED A *PILOT?*
MY MIND LATCHES ON TO THE BLADE'S ENERGY SIGNATURE...

...BUT ALL I FIND IS ITS RESIDUE.
NEW YORK CITY.
I'M SORRY, MISS RYAN... ARE YOU SAYING YOU HAVE A *MAGIC SWORD* STASHED AT YOUR HOUSE?
ALL WE KNOW IS THAT IT'S *A* SWORD THAT *MIGHT* GRANT *SOME* PEOPLE...SUPER POWERS. THAT'S ALL.
BUT... ISN'T THAT *INCREDIBLY* DUMB?
YOU KNOW WHAT, COLLEEN? I TAKE IT BACK. IT'S NOT MAGIC.
YOU CAN GO NOW.
THE FACT THAT THE INFINITY WATCH LIVE AFTER I WENT TO THE BOTHER OF KILLING THEM IS... *IRKSOME.*
THE VULTURE *FLEW,* MISS RIPLEY.
THIS IS *ADRIAN TOOMES* WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, RIGHT?
THE OLD MAN WHO STEALS THINGS FROM HIGH-RISE APARTMENTS AND FLIES OFF ON A RIDICULOUS GLIDER?
UNTIL HE HELD THE *MAGIC SWORD* AND SUDDENLY HE HAD WINGS THAT *WORKED.*
AFTER WHICH HE HAD A *HEART ATTACK* AND FELL TO HIS DEATH.
DOES THAT SOUND LIKE MAGIC TO *YOU?*
BUT WHAT IS A *STORY* WITHOUT OBSTACLES?
OKAY, SEE, NOW I'M WONDERING WHY YOU'RE SUDDENLY SO *DEFENSIVE.*
IF THE SWORD'S NOTHING SPECIAL, WHY IS EVERYONE AFTER IT? WHY DID YOU MOVE IT?
I'M SORRY, *WHO* ARE YOU AGAIN?
HARRY OSBORN'S *PRIVATE SECRETARY?*
YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING.
I'M HIDING *PLENTY.*
I AM *GOD* HERE.
AND THIS IS SO FAR ABOVE YOUR PAY GRADE, IT--
SORRY I'M LATE, HARRY!

OH!
UH, HI, MISS RIPLEY.
MR. PARKER. IT'S FUNNY, I COULD HAVE SWORN I FIRED YOU.
YEAH, YOU DID. UH, I JUST, UM--
OH, I NO LONGER CARE.
I SENT YOU BOTH TO TRACK DOWN THE INFINITY BLADE.
THE THREE OF US, PLUS MY BODYGUARD, ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO SHOULD KNOW IT EVEN EXISTS.
THERE ARE FOUR OF US HERE.
BUT TOOMES AND NOW HOBGOBLIN HAVE COME FOR IT, SO SOMEONE OUT THERE KNOWS SOMETHING THEY COULDN'T POSSIBLY KNOW.
SO THERE IS SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THAT SWORD.
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.
MISS RIPLEY, YOU CAN PRETEND ALL YOU WANT, BUT THAT SWORD HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD, AND WHOEVER IS SEARCHING FOR IT HAS SOME DEEP POCKETS.
THE HOBGOBLIN HAS LAWYERED UP.
THE HOBGOBLIN HAS LAWYERS?
EXPENSIVE ONES FROM A FIRM OWNED BY AVERY ZAVALA.
ZAVALA?
STAR'S MACHINATIONS ARE ALMOST PLAYFUL.

WEALTHY INDUSTRIALIST AVERY ZAVALA? INCARCERATED WEALTHY INDUSTRIALIST AVERY ZAVALA?
THAT'S THE ONE.
BUT WHY WOULD ZAVALA HAVE PROFESSIONAL CRIMINALS WORKING FOR HIM?
FROM AFAR, I CAN SEE THE THREADS OF THIS STORY. I CAN SEE HOW THIS ONE PLAYS OUT.
I CAN SEE WHAT'S COMING.
BECAUSE THE &$%&#@$#&@ REMEMBERS!
OSBORN! PARKER! GET A HOLD OF WARDEN COULSON IN ALCATRAZ!
TELL HIM TO PREPARE FOR A JAIL BREAK!
GO!
AND WHAT DO I DO?
YOU, MISS WING? BANE OF MY LIFE? THORN IN MY SIDE?
YOU?
YOU COME WITH ME.
WHAT WAS THAT?
I SAID YOU COME WITH ME!

AH, AND WHAT'S THIS?
APPARENTLY, WE ARE DIVERTING TO THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE *INFINITY WATCH* AS THIS REALITY BATTLES ITSELF.
QUANTUM DELIVERY
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS.
THE UNIVERSE IS **WRONG.** THIS WORLD IS NOT THE ONE IT **SHOULD** BE. WE'RE NOT THE **PEOPLE** WE SHOULD BE. CAN'T YOU FEEL IT?
NO, I **CAN'T**, AND I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT--
--BUT I MEANT THAT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY I AGREED TO **DRIVE** YOU. I HAVE A JOB. I HAVE PACKAGES TO DELIVER.
JUST LISTEN TO THE KID. YOU **KNOW** HE'S RIGHT.
I DON'T KNOW **ANYTHING.** I CERTAINLY DON'T KNOW EITHER OF **YOU.**
I'M **WARD**, HE'S **HECTOR.** WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
MY NAME? MY NAME IS... MY **NAME** IS...
YOU DON'T KNOW IT, DO YOU?
OF COURSE I DO. IT'S MY NAME. I KNOW **MY OWN NAME.** IT'S... IT'S...
SABRETOOTH!
THAT'S AN ODD ONE. IS IT A FAMILY NAME, OR--?

RECOGNIZE ME FROM THE TV, DIDJA?
YEAH, I'M PRETTY DISTINCTIVE ALL RIGHT. BUT YOU?
YOU'RE NOBODY.
PROBLEM IS, I WAS TOLD TO COME HERE AND KILL THE FIRST *DELIVERY DRIVER* WHO CROSSED MY PATH--
--AND YOU JUST *CROSSED MY PATH.*
SORRY, PAL. WRONG PLACE, WRONG TIME.
HEY! LET HIM GO!
YEAH! DO *THAT!*
I WAS ALSO TOLD TO KILL WHOEVER WAS IN THE TRUCK WITH YOU, SO I GUESS TODAY IS GONNA GET MIGHTY BLOODY.
GOOD THING I WORE MY *CLAWS.*
THEY DON'T LOOK SO SHARP.

NEITHER DO *YOU*, FOR THAT MATTER.
CAPTAIN AMERICA!
BUT NOT THE ONE WHO *SHOULD BE.*
NOT *THE* STEVE ROGERS, RECIPIENT OF THE SUPER-SOLDIER SERUM, HERO OF WORLD WAR II WHO WAS FROZEN IN ICE FOR DECADES.
NO, THIS IS *ANOTHER* STEVE ROGERS. STILL A WAR HERO, STILL A MAN WHO WILL NOT SIT BY WHILE TYRANNY RAISES ITS UGLY HEAD...
GRARRGH!
SIR, YOU'D BETTER TAKE YOUR FRIENDS AND *RUN.*
I DON'T KNOW WHY HE WANTS YOU DEAD OR HOW I KNEW THERE'D BE TROUBLE IN THIS PART OF TOWN--
WHAM
UNK!
--BUT *I'LL* TAKE CARE OF THIS.
A GOOD MAN. A DECENT MAN.
YOU BROKE MY NOSE...
A *HERO.*

AS OPPOSED TO RIPLEY RYAN, THE GOD OTHERWISE KNOWN AS *STAR.*
MY... HOME.
MY BEAUTIFUL HOME...
DON'T YOU HAVE, LIKE, *SECURITY?*
THAT'S A GOOD POINT.
DANVERS!
MISS RIPLEY, THERE'S BEEN A... BREACH...
WHAT DO I *PAY* YOU FOR, @#$&?
I TELL YOU TO *BRING THE SWORD HERE* AND *SECURE THE HOUSE*--YOU CAN'T EVEN DO *THAT?* HOW $@%&# INCOMPETENT *ARE* YOU?!
SO WHO'D ZAVALA SEND THIS TIME? ELECTRO? THAT BARON ZEMO GUY?
JUST LITTLE OLD ME, I'M AFRAID...

THE GREEN GOBLIN!
YES, YES, THE GREEN ME-- KILLER, CRIMINAL, DOMESTIC TERRORIST...
BUT THIS SWORD.
LET'S TALK ABOUT THIS SWORD.
I WAS SENT TO RETRIEVE AND DELIVER AND TO NOT TOUCH THE HILT.
THE THING IS, THOUGH, I'VE DISOBEYED EVERY ORDER I'VE EVER BEEN GIVEN...
...AND YOU CAN SEE WHAT I'VE DONE ABOUT THIS ONE.
MR. GOBLIN, LET'S JUST PAUSE A MOMENT.
DANVERS, WHY AREN'T YOU SHOOTING HIM?
OUT OF BULLETS.
@$%& IDIOT.
MR. GOBLIN, I CAN PAY YOU AN OBSCENE AMOUNT OF MONEY TO JUST HAND THAT--
MONEY? NO, NO. IT'S THE PRINCIPLE OF THE THING.
I LIKE HOW THIS SWORD FEELS.
IT FEELS LIKE IT WANTS ME TO USE MY IMAGINATION.

THIS... *COMPLICATES* THINGS.
BUT IT COULD STILL WORK TO MY ADVANTAGE, PROVIDING HE DOESN'T NOTICE MY--
DAMN.
THIS IS DISCONCERTING.
THIS IS DISCONCERTING.
BOTH OF YOU, *RUN!* I'LL--
HE CAN SEE REALITY THE WAY I SEE IT.
SMACK
YES I CAN.

I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW ANY OF THIS IS HAPPENING.
YOU CAN STILL *FIGHT*, CAN'T YOU? I LEFT YOU WITH YOUR *SKILLS*, DIDN'T I? SO *FIGHT!*
YOU DIDN'T "LEAVE ME" WITH ANYTHING.
I TRAINED IN MARTIAL ARTS MY *ENTIRE LIFE!*
"YOUR ENTIRE LIFE"?
YOU DON'T *KNOW* YOUR ENTIRE LIFE. THIS REALITY IS WHAT SHE *DECIDED* IT WOULD BE.
AND *YOU*... STAR...
...YOU HAD EXISTENCE AT YOUR FINGERTIPS AND YOU STILL FUMBLED IT RIGHT BEFORE YOU SEIZED *ULTIMATE POWER.*
HOW DISAPPOINTINGLY PATHETIC.
I WOULD AGREE.
YOU'RE *ZAVALA*, AREN'T YOU?
I AM. AND I NEED THE SWORD.
TOO BAD.
LOOK OUT, IDIOT!
UGH!

WHO IS HE *TALKING* TO?
SOME BEARDED #@$%%& WHO WANTS TO RUIN MY LIFE.
THERE IS AN ENEMY, AND THEY ARE ALMOST--
THE APEIRON. I KNOW. I CAN SENSE THEM.
I CAN SEE WHAT THEY'VE DONE.
I CAN SEE WHAT *YOU'VE* DONE.
YOU MAY *HAVE* THE SWORD, NORMAN, BUT YOU DON'T YET KNOW HOW TO *WIELD IT* AND YOU DON'T HAVE THE TIME TO *LEARN.*
THEY'LL DEFEAT YOU. THEY'LL KILL YOU.
NO, THEY WON'T. I'M THE *GREEN GOBLIN.*
THE GREEN GOBLIN *NEVER--*
WAIT.
YOU'RE TRYING TO DISTRACT ME FROM...
HEH.
OF COURSE.

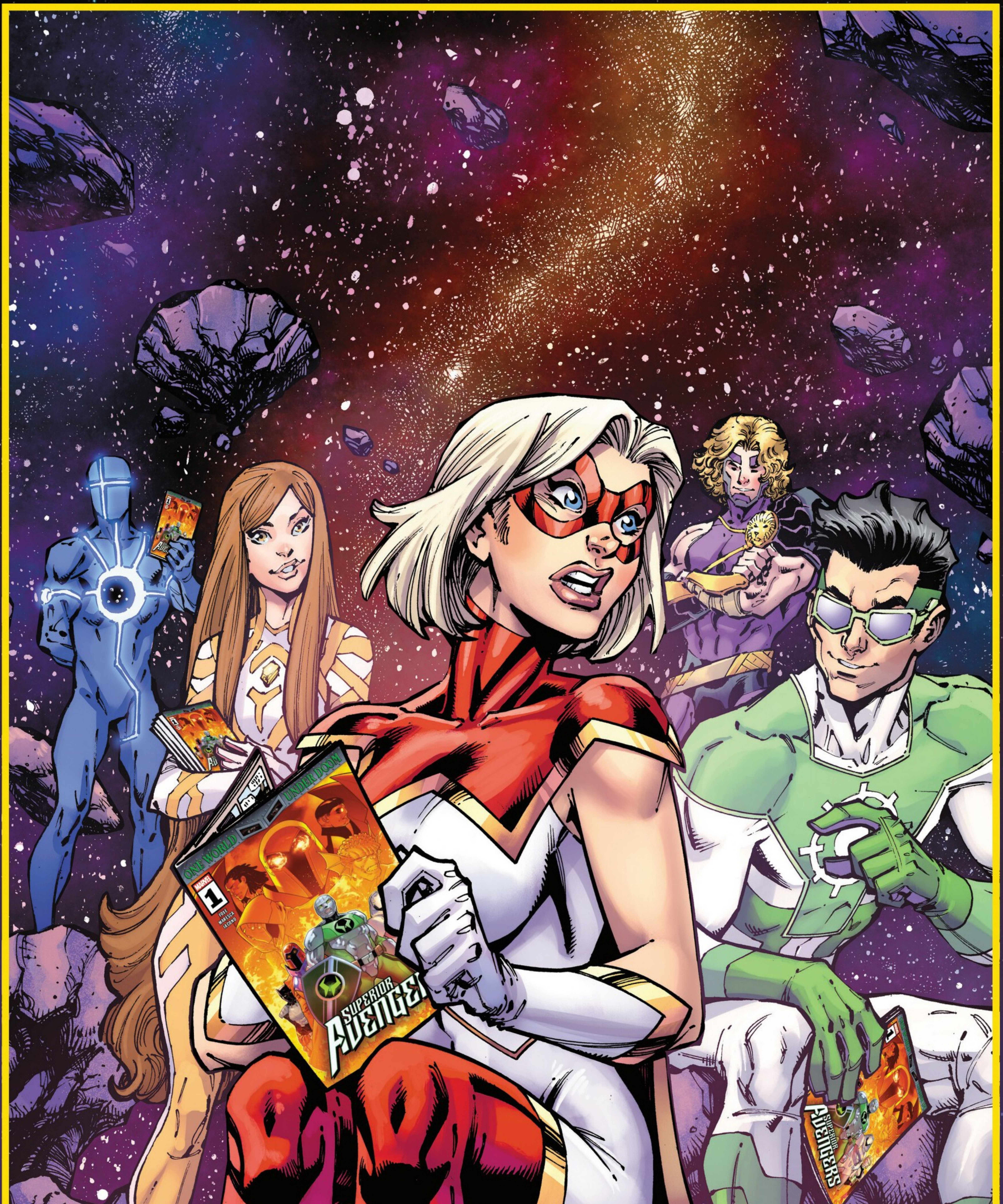
THE INFINITY WATCH!
YOU SEEM TO HAVE FOUND EACH OTHER. HOW FUN!
ON THE GROUND, GOBLIN!
AND DO NOT TOUCH THE GIANT SWORD, LEST WE PERFORATE YOU WITH TINY BULLETS!
OH.
DAMMIT, STOP!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BOOM
GET HIM!
COLLEEN! STAR!
YEAH, YEAH...

WHEN WE GET HIM DOWN, KID--
--GRAB THAT DAMN *SWORD.*
LIFE UNFOLDS IN *PATTERNS.*
TAKE THE WATCH, FOR EXAMPLE.
IRRITANTS WHO SHOULD, BY RIGHT, HAVE STAYED DEAD--THEY ARE NOW MY *ONLY HOPE* TO DELAY THE GREEN GOBLIN UNTIL MY ARRIVAL.
I *CURSED* THEM. NOW I *LAUD* THEM.
PATTERNS.
STORIES, LIKE LIFE, UNFOLD IN THESE PATTERNS. THERE IS A REASON FOR THAT.
ZZAP
GAHHH!
YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT?
YOU THINK I DON'T SEE THE TRUTH?
YOU HAVE *GLIMPSED* THE TRUTH. YOU HAVE NOT *SEEN* IT.
I KNOW NOT WHO YOU'RE SPEAKING TO, UGLY MAN, BUT PLEASE CONTINUE WHILE I PUMMEL YOU.

HE TAKES MY BEST PUNCHES AND STILL STANDS!
SOME ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED!
ASSISTANCE DELIVERED.
PILE IT ON, EVERYONE! THIS IS OUR LAST CHANCE!
KID! NOW!
YOUR *LAST* CHANCE?
YOU DELUDED FOOLS.
YOU HAD *NO CHANCE AT ALL!*

YOU DON'T *MATTER,* DO YOU HEAR?
THIS WORLD, THIS UNIVERSE, THIS *REALITY,* DOESN'T MATTER.
WITH THE POWER OF THESE STONES, THIS REALITY WAS RESHAPED.
I'M GOING TO RESHAPE IT *AGAIN.*
TO DEFEAT THE APEIRON, YOU'LL NEED MORE THAN JUST THE INFINITY BLADE.
ONLY I HAVE FOUGHT THEM BEFORE, AND ONLY I KNOW HOW TO *DEFEAT* THEM.
CAN SOMEBODY PERHAPS TELL ME WHAT IS HAPPENING?
YOU MUST GIVE THE POWER TO ME. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING.
THEY ARE ALMOST HERE. PLEASE. IN A MOMENT, IT WILL BE TOO LATE.
I AM THE *GREEN GOBLIN,* AND I AM *MORE THAN A MATCH* FOR THAT BAND OF COWARDLY STONE BEARERS.
ASIDE FROM THE GOBLIN PART, THAT IS GENERALLY WHAT THEY *ALL* SAY...

...BEFORE WE *BREAK THEIR WORLD* AND *EAT THEIR POWER.*
HELLO THERE, LITTLE GOBLIN.
WE'RE GOING TO BE KILLING YOU NOW.


ONE WORLD UNDER DOOM
MARVEL
1
SUPERIOR AVENGERS
SUPERIOR AVENGERS
NAUCK

#3 MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS VARIANT BY **TODD NAUCK** & **RACHELLE ROSENBERG**

GURU
-eFX

WHAT IS IT TO SEE SUPER-POWERS IN A WORLD WITHOUT SUPER HEROES?
HOW MUST THAT FEEL, FOR AN ORDINARY PERSON TO WITNESS SOMETHING THAT RENDERS THEM SO *OBSOLETE?*
IS THERE A *MEASURE* FOR THAT LEVEL OF TERROR? A *GAUGE?*
IS THERE EVEN A *WORD* CAPABLE OF ENCOMPASSING THAT MUCH *EXISTENTIAL DREAD?*
#@%&.
WELL SAID, *COLLEEN WING.*
WELL SAID.
TELL THEM WHAT'S GOING ON, *MISS RYAN.*

TELL THEM WHAT YOU DID.
STAR.
HOW DO *YOU* KNOW WHAT I--?
WE DON'T HAVE *TIME* FOR MORE GAMES. *PLEASE.*
I CHANGED THE UNIVERSE.
A BAD MAN KILLED US AND TOOK OUR POWERS, BUT AT THE LAST SECOND, I SAVED US ALL.
YOU MADE ME HUMAN.
BECAUSE IT'S WHAT YOU WANTED!
DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT! I MADE YOU A *REAL BOY,* PINOCCHIO!
YOU MADE *ME* A PERSONAL ASSISTANT.
I *LIKE* THE KID.
YOU PUT ME WITH WARD... WHICH WAS ACTUALLY *NICE* OF YOU.
FOCUS, EVERYONE. UNIVERSE AT STAKE!
THAT *SWORD,* COULSON--WHOEVER WIELDS IT CONTROLS *EXISTENCE.*
WE *NEED* IT.
THEY HAVE *SUPER-POWERS!*

YOU HAVE BEEN RUNNING THROUGH THE MULTIVERSE FROM *THESE* PEOPLE, ZAVALA?
THEY ARE HARDLY A *CHALLENGE.*
OH, NORMAN, NO.
THE APEIRON SIMPLY HAVE NEVER ENCOUNTERED AN *INFINITY BLADE* BEFORE.
YOU MUST GIVE IT TO ME BEFORE THEY ESTABLISH A STRATEGY AGAINST IT.
YOU ARE TOO LIMITED A MAN TO BE GOD, NORMAN OSBORN.
ARRGHH!
BEST LEAVE IT TO THE PROFESSIONALS.
ENOUGH OF YOUR NARRATIVE, ZAVALA!
AND *YOU* PEOPLE--ENOUGH OF YOUR PATHETIC ATTEMPTS TO *DEFEAT* ME!
TO KEEP THIS BLADE, I WILL BURN THIS REALITY TO ITS *FOUNDATIONS* AND *YOU* ALONG WITH IT!
I AM THE *GREEN GOBLIN!*
AND THE GREEN GOBLIN *NEVER*--
GUK!

LITTLE GOBLIN, THAT DREADFUL SENSATION YOU'RE FEELING IS YOU LOSING CONTROL OF YOUR MENTAL FACULTIES.
GUK--
GUK--
BUT PLEASE DON'T BE EMBARRASSED.
WHOLE UNIVERSES HAVE STOOD AGAINST US AND FALLEN.
WE ARE WHAT WAITS AT THE END OF EVERY STORY, AND WE WERE NEVER MEANT TO FLOUNDER AT THE FEET OF ONE SUCH AS--
GET HER!
SERIOUSLY?
DISTRACTIONS ABOUND!
NOW, STAR! GO!
OH, THIS IS RIDICULOUS. WILL SOMEONE--
--GET AWAY FROM ME, LITTLE MAN--
--PLEASE PICK UP THAT SWORD?
NOW THAT'S A GOOD #$@$% IDEA--
WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?

HEY, EVERYBODY--
STAR IS BACK!
WHO?
DO YOU REALLY EXPECT TO LAST LONGER THAN THE GOBLIN, MY DEAR?
THE GOBLIN DOESN'T KNOW @#$% ABOUT @#$%, LADY. BUT ME?
I BUILT THIS $%%@&# UNIVERSE--
--AND I CAN MAKE IT RIGHT!

WHAT THE HELL IS...?
DON'T MAKE ME AN ASSISTANT AGAIN, YOU #$%@&.
MY MUSCLES SHOULD BE... *BIGGER.*
WARD, IF THIS WORKS, WE CAN STILL--
STAR CREATED THIS WORLD, HECTOR. YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP PROMISES SHE MADE YOU MAKE.
NOW HOLD ON--
YOU DON'T EVEN REALIZE WHAT YOU'RE DOING, DO YOU? BUT DON'T WORRY.
WE'LL SHOW YOU.

THE APEIRON TEAR AWAY REALITY'S FLIMSY VEIL--
--AND REALITY *SHIVERS.*
THE TRUTH OF WHO THEY ARE IS REVEALED TO THE INFINITY WATCH IN A MOMENT OF *PURE BEAUTY* AND *INCANDESCENT HORROR.*
SHOULD THEY SURVIVE THE NEXT FEW SECONDS, THEY WILL BE *FOREVER* CHANGED.

MULTITUDE, I--I CAN'T. I THOUGHT I COULD, BUT I DON'T KNOW HOW.
YOU CAN SEE IT, CAN'T YOU? MY BRAIN CAN'T PROCESS WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE, BUT YOURS CAN.
STAR, YOU MUST FOCUS ON THE UNIVERSE WE KNOW.
YOU HAVE TO BRING IT BACK EXACTLY AS IT WAS.
YOU DO IT.
WHAT'S THE POINT, BOY?
YOU'LL NEVER BE ONE OF THEM.
THIS WORLD WAS YOUR ONLY CHANCE AT BEING HUMAN.
YES--BUT THIS WORLD WAS NEVER REAL TO ME. IT WAS ALWAYS SYNTHETIC.
TAKES ONE TO KNOW ONE.
BUT...KID, WE WERE GOING TO BE A FAMILY. WE STILL--
I KNOW, OVERTIME, AND I'M SORRY.
BUT WE HAVE TO FACE REALITY.

AND THEN THEY WOKE UP.
THE LAZY REFRAIN TO END YOUR STORY QUICKLY.
ONLY THIS IS NOT YET THE END.
FOR THEY WAKE TO EVEN MORE BLOOD.
THIS... THIS IS *OUR* UNIVERSE AGAIN, ISN'T IT? I CAN FEEL IT.
MULTITUDE, YOU--YOU *DID* IT.
MORE PAIN.
I HAVE A UNIVERSE'S WORTH OF SOULS INSIDE ME, GUIDING MY HAND.
WITH THEIR HELP, IT WAS ALMOST EASY.
MORE HORROR.
WHETHER WE CONSUME ***THIS*** VERSION OF YOUR UNIVERSE OR THE ***OTHER,*** IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO US.
WE WILL DRINK YOUR POWER.

COME AND GET IT.
LO! THE HEROES REBORN!
EVERYONE SQUEEZE INTO THE GROUP SHOT!
APEIRON, CONSUME!

THE BATTLE IS JOINED, BUT OUR EXPECTATIONS GET SUBVERTED YET AGAIN.
BECAUSE THE INFINITY WATCH IS GOING TO *LOSE.*
HAVING THEIR EXISTENCE BE PLAYED WITH LIKE THIS--IT HAS HAD A DESTABILIZING EFFECT.
THEY ARE OFF-BALANCE.
THE APEIRON IS A SEASONED TEAM OF BEINGS EXPERIENCED IN *BEATING*-- AND *KILLING*-- STONE BEARERS.
THE INFINITY WATCH SIMPLY DON'T HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FORMULATE A PLAN.
DEFEAT IS INEVITABLE.

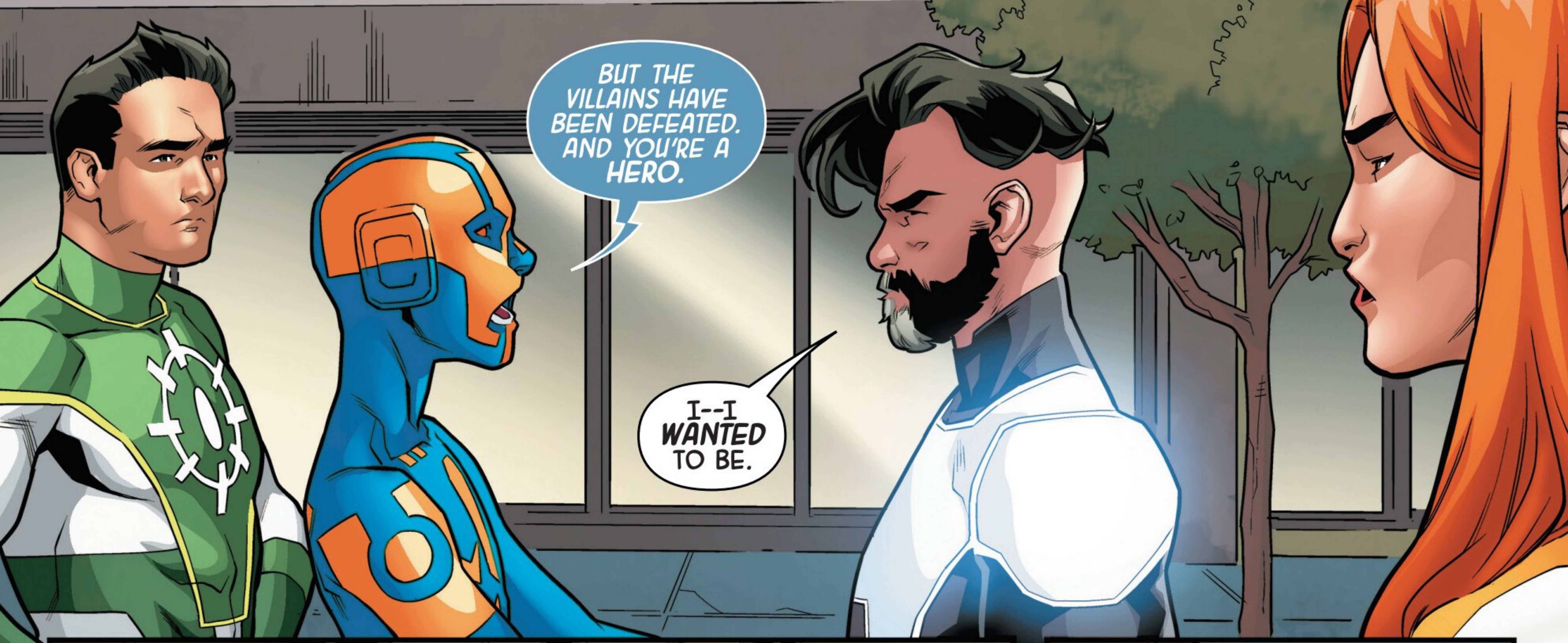
ZAVALA. YOU MADE IT.
NOW THAT THE RESTRICTIONS OF THE ALTERNATE UNIVERSE HAVE BEEN LIFTED, I CAN GET AROUND MUCH EASIER, THANK YOU.
COULSON KNOWS WHAT MUST BE DONE. THEY ALL DO.
YOU CAN STOP THAT NOW.
YOU DON'T LIKE IT? I FIND IT HELPS TO REINFORCE MY POINT.
YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE.
YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE.
ONLY I CAN DEFEAT THE APEIRON.
ONLY I CAN DEFEAT THE APEIRON.
I MIGHT MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. THEY'VE NEVER HAD TO FACE A *DEATH STONE BEARER.*
WHAT IS DEATH TO PEOPLE OF THIS POWER, COULSON?
THERE'S A REASON YOU'RE NOT FIGHTING, AND IT'S BECAUSE YOU KNOW THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO BEAT THEM.

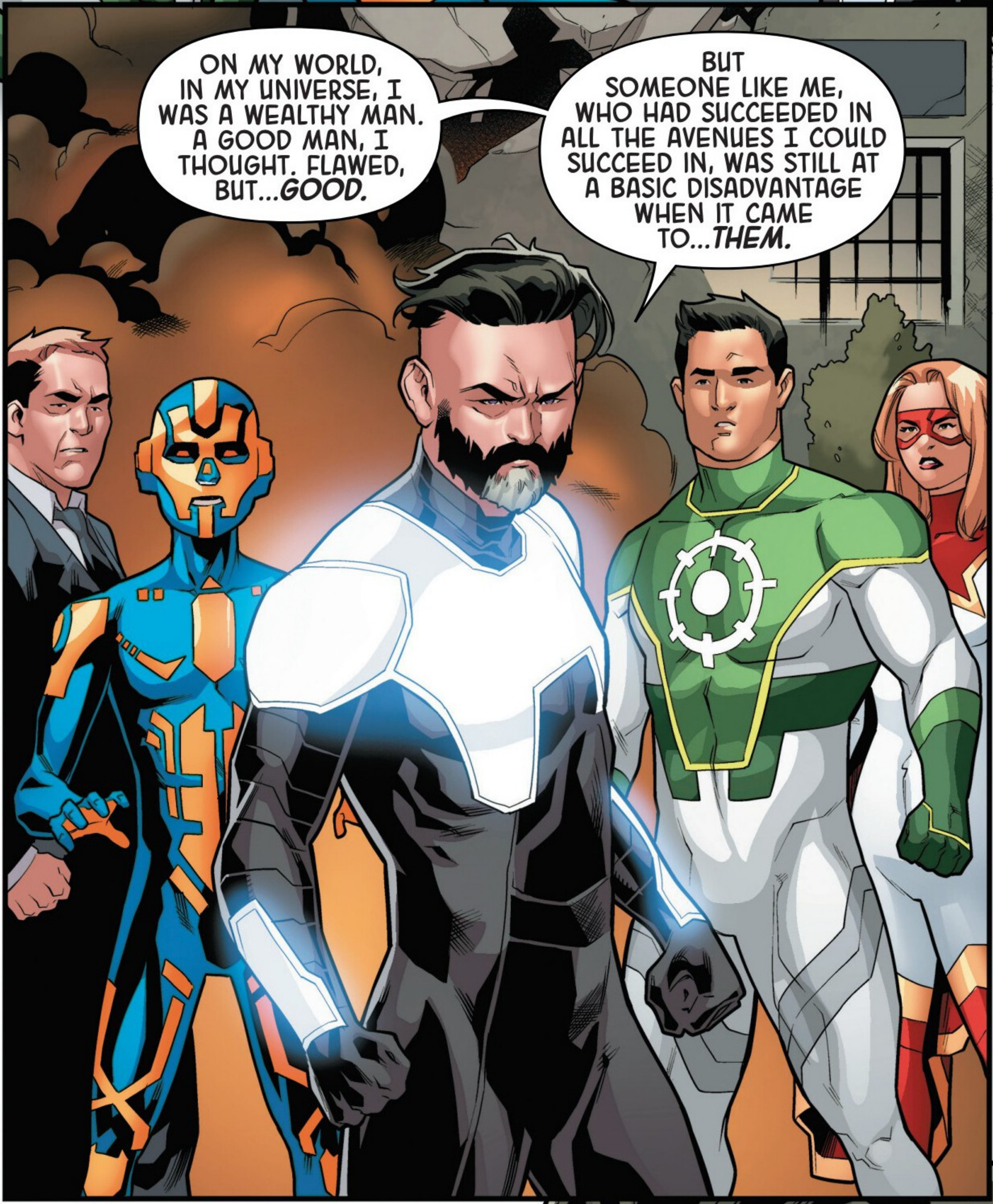
IT IS SOMETHING STARTLING, TO CARRY CREATION IN ONE'S HANDS.
I WAS SO *PROUD* OF THIS SWORD.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD TURN THE TIDE.
THOUGH IT IS ONE THING TO HOLD IT--QUITE ANOTHER TO KNOW WHAT TO *DO* WITH IT.
BUT IT'S JUST A SWORD.
JUST AS A GAUNTLET IS JUST A GAUNTLET.
YOU NEED TO SHARE YOUR POWER WITH ME. ALL OF YOU.
DID YOU ALL HEAR THAT? TRUST ME ON THIS. WE NEED ZAVALA.
ARE WE ALL AGREED?
YOU BETTER BE RIGHT, COULSON. YES.
YES.
YES.
YES.
YES.
WHATEVER.
WELL, OKAY, THEN.
VWMMMMMMM

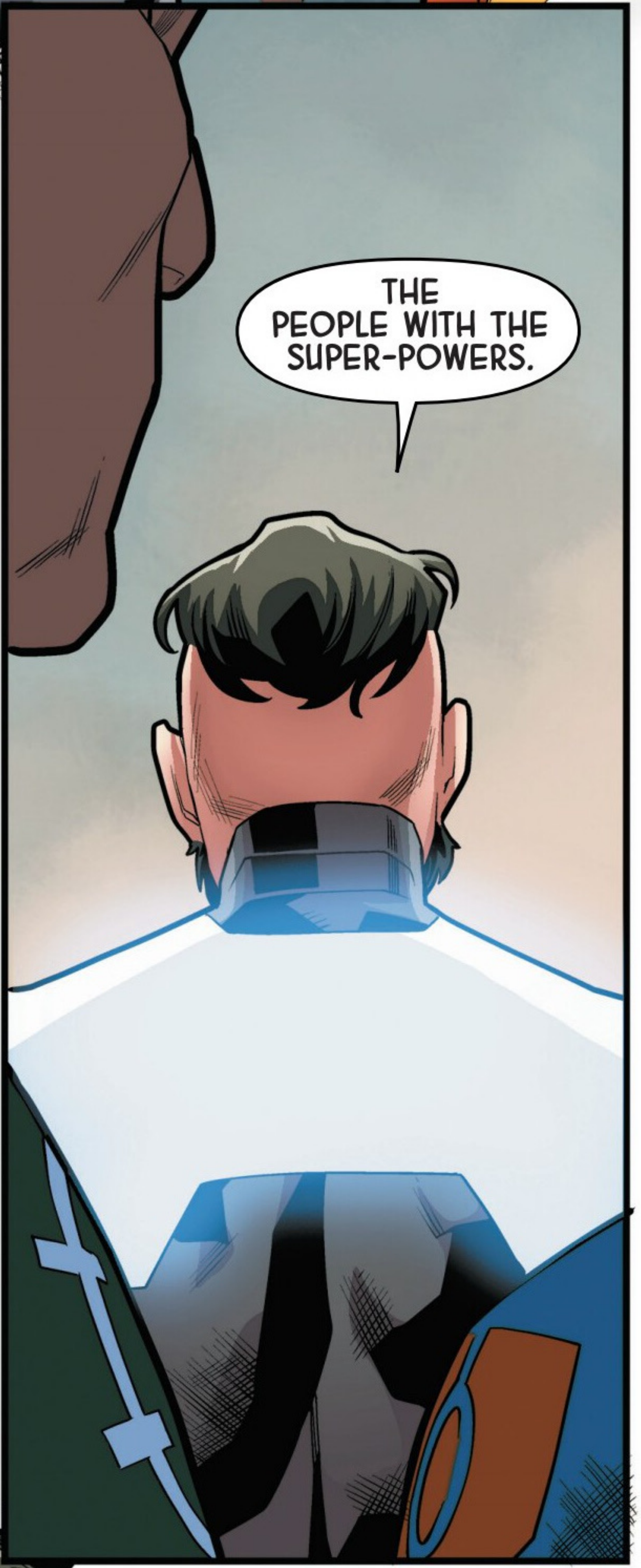
TIME AND AGAIN, THE APEIRON HAVE DEFEATED ME. MADE ME RUN. MADE ME FLEE.
WOW. THE FIRST THING HE DID WITH UNLIMITED POWER IS GIVE HIMSELF BIGGER MUSCLES AND A HAIRCUT.
LAME.
I LED THEM FROM UNIVERSE TO UNIVERSE. DOZENS OF REALITIES FELL BEHIND ME. HUNDREDS OF INFINITY STONES CONSUMED AT MY HEELS.
I ALWAYS RUN.
AND THE APEIRON *ALWAYS* PURSUE.
BUT WHILE I RAN, I LOOKED BACK AND I WATCHED.
AND *LEARNED.*
BECAUSE I KNEW SOMETHING THAT THE APEIRON DIDN'T. I HAD WITNESSED SOMETHING THEY HAD NEVER EVEN *GLIMPSED.*
THERE IS A FUNDAMENTAL TRUTH TO OUR EXISTENCE, AND IT IS THIS:

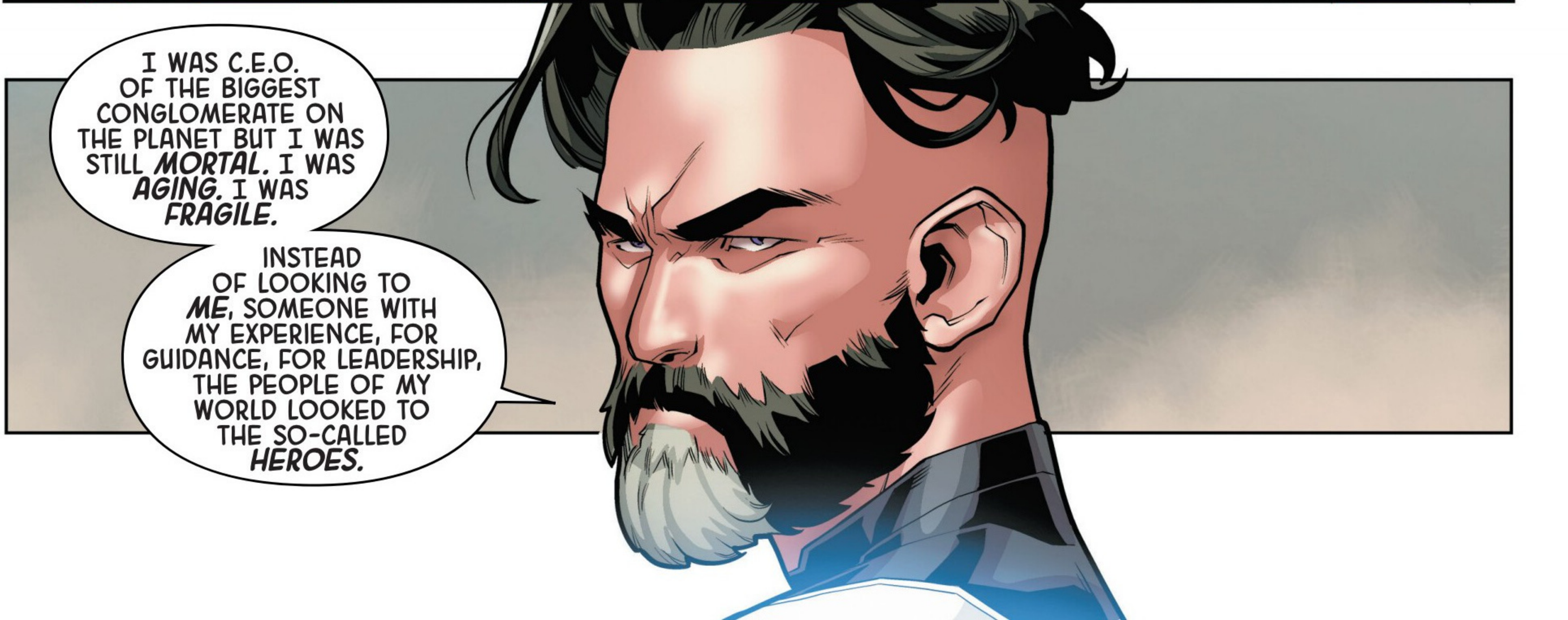
STORIES HAVE *BEGINNINGS.* AND STORIES HAVE *ENDINGS.*

AND JUST LIKE THAT, THE MOST POWERFUL BEINGS KNOWN TO THE MULTIVERSE ARE WIPED OUT. BY US. BY *ME.*
I'M--I'M TRYING TO *STOP* SHARING MY POWER WITH HIM, BUT...
YEAH, HE'S HOLDING ON TO IT. HOW THE HELL IS HE DOING THAT?
PRACTICE.
I'VE BEEN PREPARING FOR THIS FOR A LONG TIME. EVERY EVENTUALITY HAS BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR.
MR. ZAVALA, WE DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT.
ARE YOU GOING TO REMAKE MY UNIVERSE? NO?
THEN IT SEEMS THAT WE *DO* HAVE TO FIGHT.


BUT THE VILLAINS HAVE BEEN DEFEATED. AND YOU'RE A *HERO.*
I--I *WANTED* TO BE.


ON MY WORLD, IN MY UNIVERSE, I WAS A WEALTHY MAN. A GOOD MAN, I THOUGHT. FLAWED, BUT...*GOOD.*
BUT SOMEONE LIKE ME, WHO HAD SUCCEEDED IN ALL THE AVENUES I COULD SUCCEED IN, WAS STILL AT A BASIC DISADVANTAGE WHEN IT CAME TO...*THEM.*

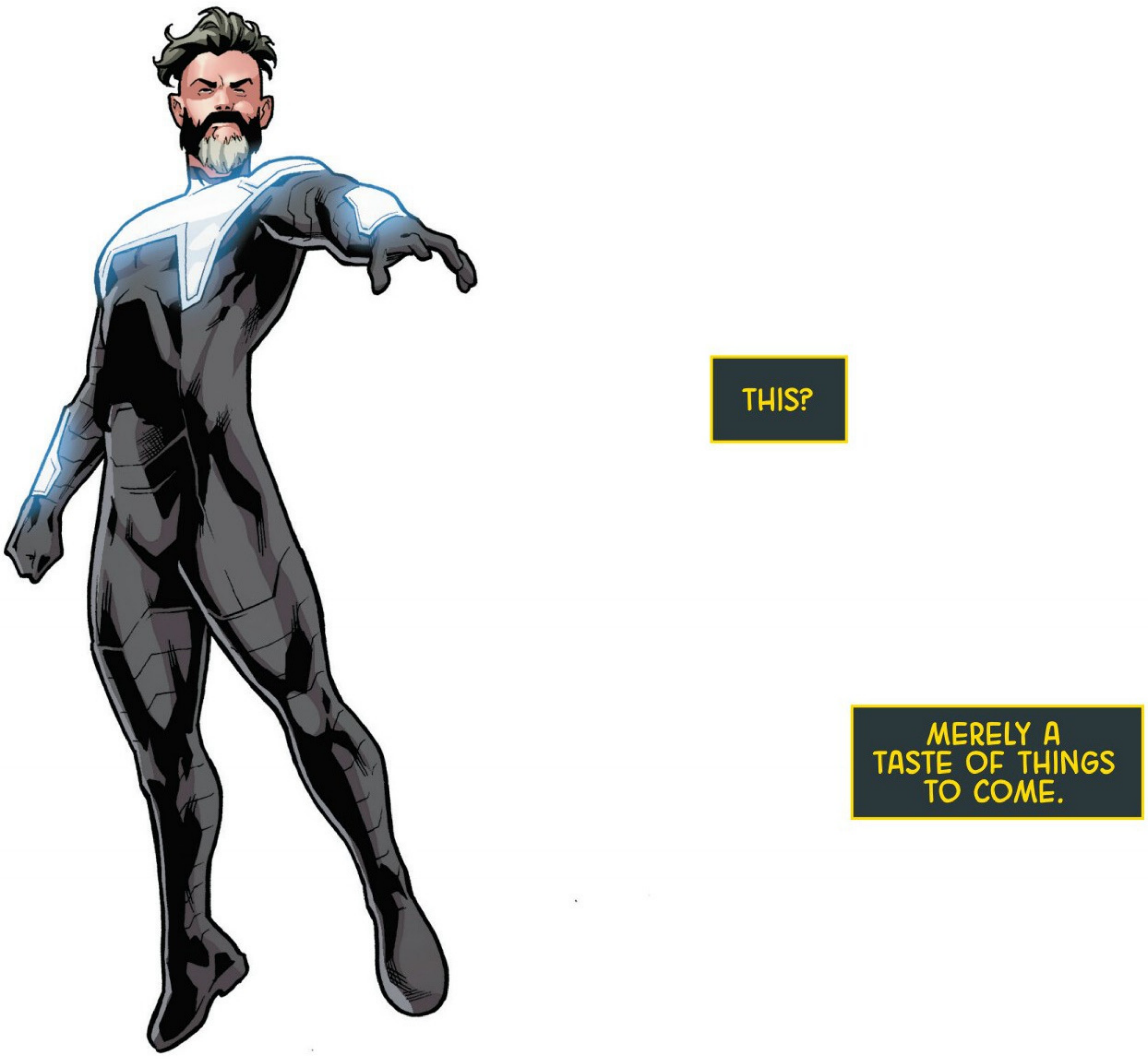

THE PEOPLE WITH THE SUPER-POWERS.

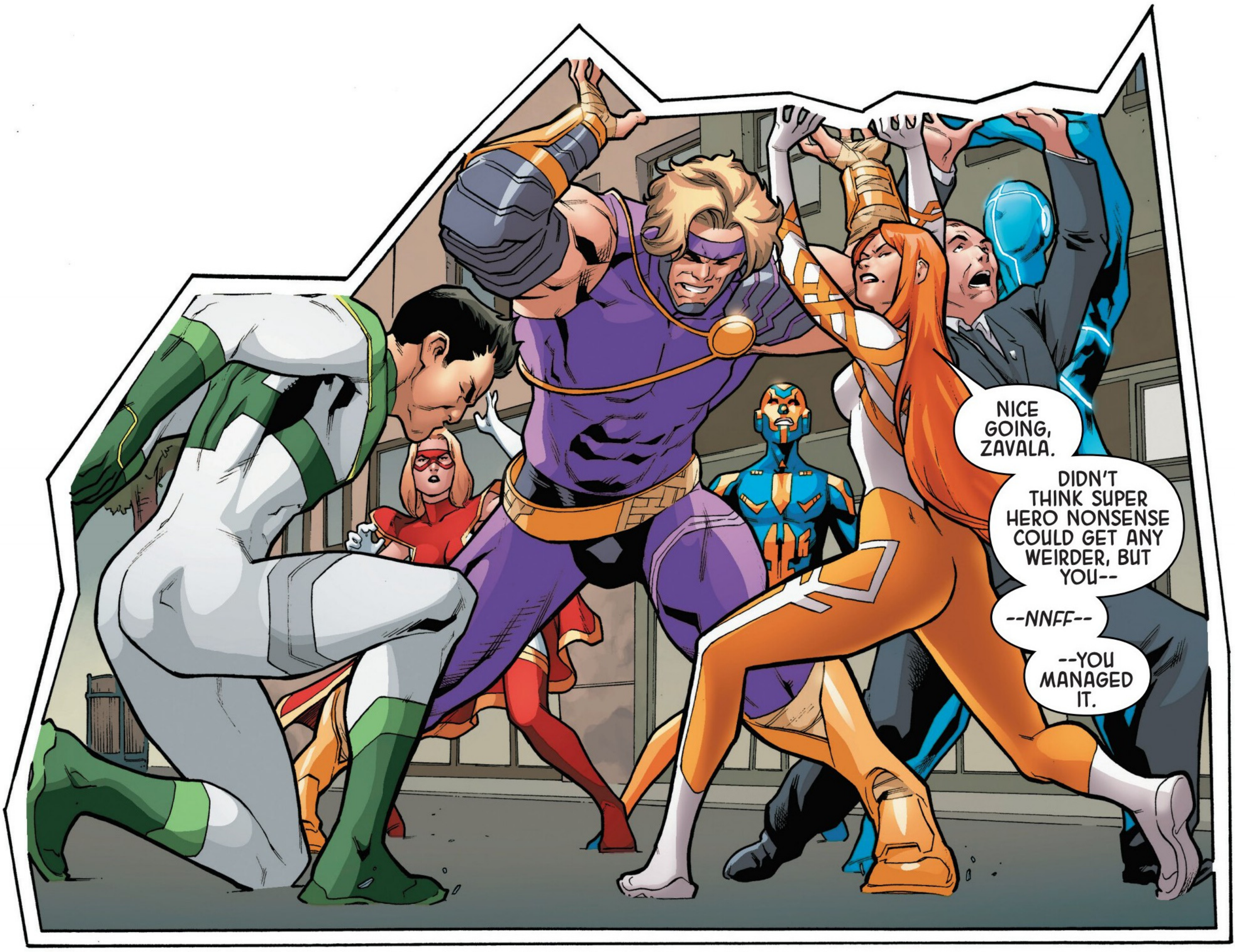

I WAS C.E.O. OF THE BIGGEST CONGLOMERATE ON THE PLANET BUT I WAS STILL *MORTAL.* I WAS *AGING.* I WAS *FRAGILE.*
INSTEAD OF LOOKING TO *ME*, SOMEONE WITH MY EXPERIENCE, FOR GUIDANCE, FOR LEADERSHIP, THE PEOPLE OF MY WORLD LOOKED TO THE SO-CALLED *HEROES.*

TO COMPETE, I DIVERSIFIED. I FUNDED CONTROVERSIAL RESEARCH. I INVESTIGATED. I *ASKED QUESTIONS.*
THEY WERE A THREAT TO OUR WAY OF LIFE, AND I NEEDED TO *PROVE IT.*
YOU ARE NO LONGER SHOWING US YOUR THOUGHTS.
YEAH, ZAVALA. WHAT ARE YOU HIDING?
I HIJACKED AN ALIEN'S COMMUNICATIONS ARRAY, AND I SENT A MESSAGE INTO THE MULTIVERSE. I WAS SEEKING ALLIES.
YOU BROUGHT THE APEIRON TO YOUR WORLD.
WHEN I REALIZED WHAT THEY WERE AFTER, WHAT THEY WOULD DO, I FOUGHT *AGAINST* THEM. I *PROVED* MYSELF.
WHEN OUR SOUL STONE BEARER FELL, THE STONE BONDED WITH *ME.*
I WAS CHOSEN!

BUT BY THEN IT WAS TOO LATE. THE WAR WAS *UNWINNABLE.* I SAVED WHO I COULD AND RAN.
WHO *DECIDED* THE WAR WAS UNWINNABLE?
MR. ZAVALA, WHEN YOU TOOK THEIR SOULS...WERE YOUR PEOPLE *DEAD?* OR WERE THEY *STILL ALIVE?*
OH GOD.
I'M GOING TO REMAKE MY UNIVERSE.
AND EVERY LAST ONE OF THE SOULS THAT ARE CHURNING INSIDE ME WILL *THANK* ME AND *LOVE* ME AND *WORSHIP* ME.
AND THEN THEY'LL *FORGIVE* ME-- FOR EVERYTHING I *HAD TO DO.*
AND YOU?
YOU WILL *NOT* STAND IN MY WAY.

5


THIS?
MERELY A TASTE OF THINGS TO COME.


NICE GOING, ZAVALA.
DIDN'T THINK SUPER HERO NONSENSE COULD GET ANY WEIRDER, BUT YOU--
--NNFF--
--YOU MANAGED IT.

QUANTUM, WILL YOU *PLEASE* TELEPORT US AWAY FROM HERE--IDEALLY *BEFORE* WE GET SQUISHED OUT OF EXISTENCE?
TELEPORT US *WHERE,* STAR?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING!
WHILE WE'RE WAITING FOR QUANTUM TO FIGURE HIMSELF OUT--
APEX, *THERE!* BREAK THAT!
STEP ASIDE, *COLLEEN WING.* "BREAKING THAT" IS WHAT I DO!
I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE GEOMETRY OF THIS *AT ALL.*
NICE BREAKAGE, APEX. NOW FOR ME TO BREAK THAT #&$% ZAVALA.

YOU SHOULDN'T @$%& WITH REALITY, *ZAVALA.* THAT'S *MY* DOMAIN.
JUST BECAUSE YOU HAVE ITS STONE NESTLED IN YOUR CHEST, *STAR,* DOES NOT MAKE REALITY *YOUR* DOMAIN. IF YOU WERE *TRULY* ITS MASTER--
--YOU'D KNOW THAT REALITY IS WHATEVER WE *SAY* IT IS.
KRAK
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY YOU'RE FIGHTING ME.
SPLAT
DO *YOU* KNOW? DO YOU *WANT* TO FIGHT ME, OR ARE YOU BEING *COMPELLED* TO FIGHT ME?
WE JUST WANT TO SAVE OUR UNIVERSE.

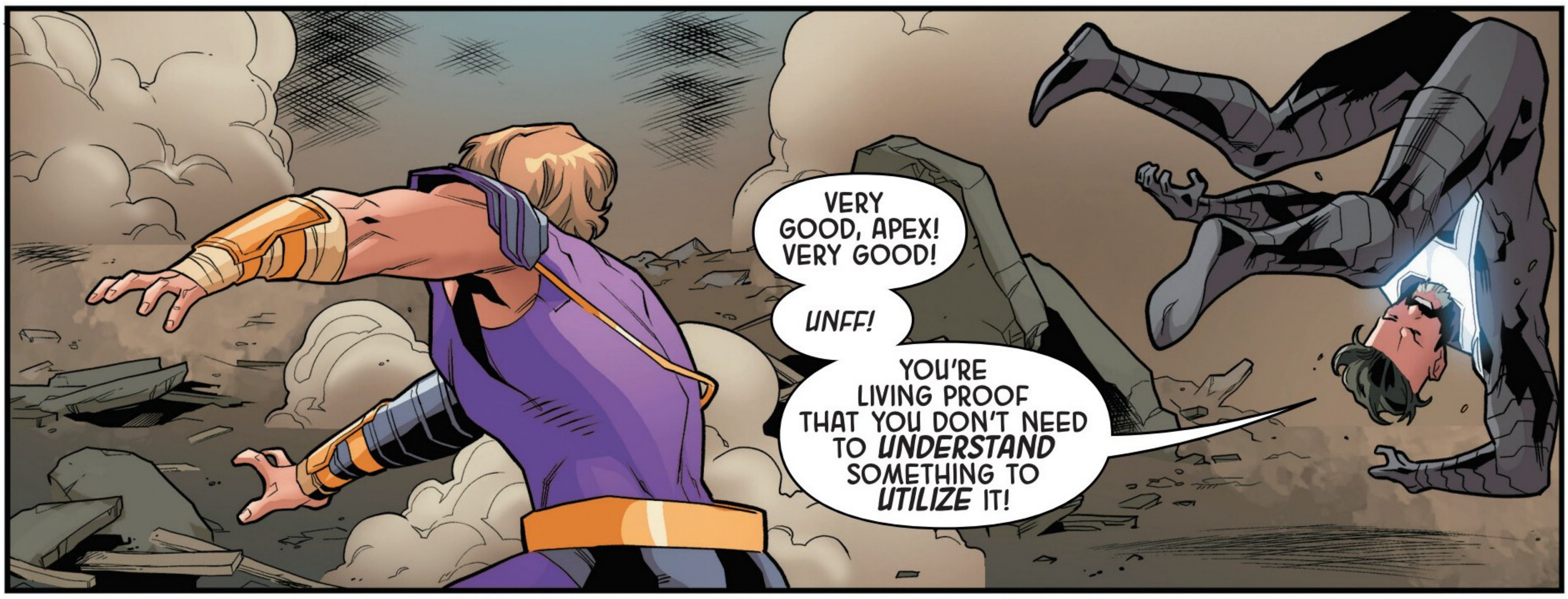
WHY, COULSON?
MY UNIVERSE OR YOURS, THE *FOUNDATIONAL BUILDING BLOCKS* AND THE *ENERGY* THAT COMPRISE IT WILL BE THE SAME.
ONLY THE *DETAILS* WILL CHANGE.
BUT I *LOVE* THE DETAILS.
WE HAVE A SAYING HERE--
"GOD IS IN THE DETAILS."
BUT *WE'RE* GOD.
HAVE AT THEE!
NOT *NOW*, APEX.

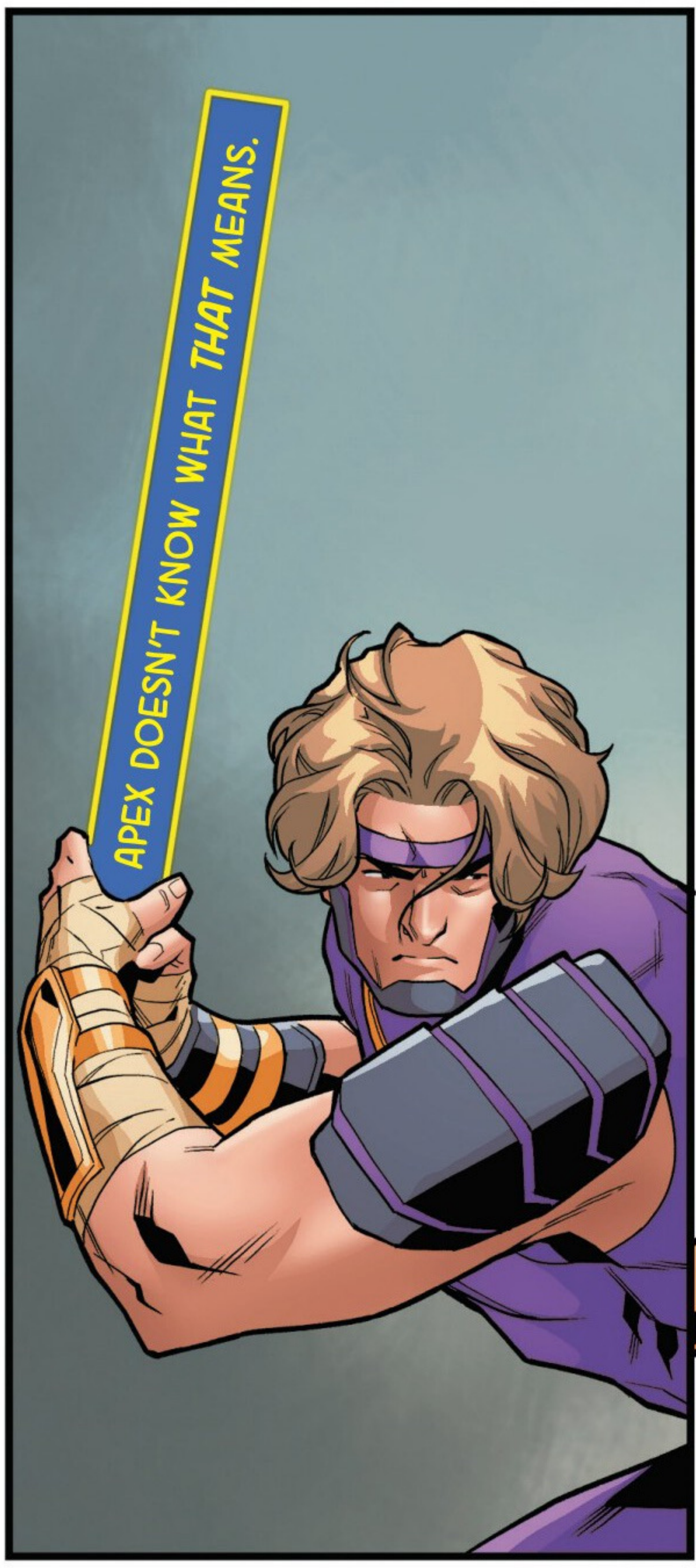
SIT.
STAY.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO CONVINCE US TO LIE DOWN AND DIE!
SO MAKE ME UNDERSTAND WHY YOU RESIST, OVERTIME!
IS IT BECAUSE YOU THINK THAT THIS IS WHAT YOU *DO?* THAT YOU *FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT?*
TWO OF YOU?!
YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE? YOU THINK YOU'RE *CONSISTENT?*
YOU CHANGE WITH EVERY MOMENT, SUBJECT TO THE WHIMS OF THE WORLD AROUND YOU!
THE *CORE* OF YOUR BEING, YOUR VERY *ATOMS,* ARE TWISTED AND DISTORTED SO THAT YOU CAN LURCH FROM ONE SHALLOW REALIZATION TO THE NEXT.

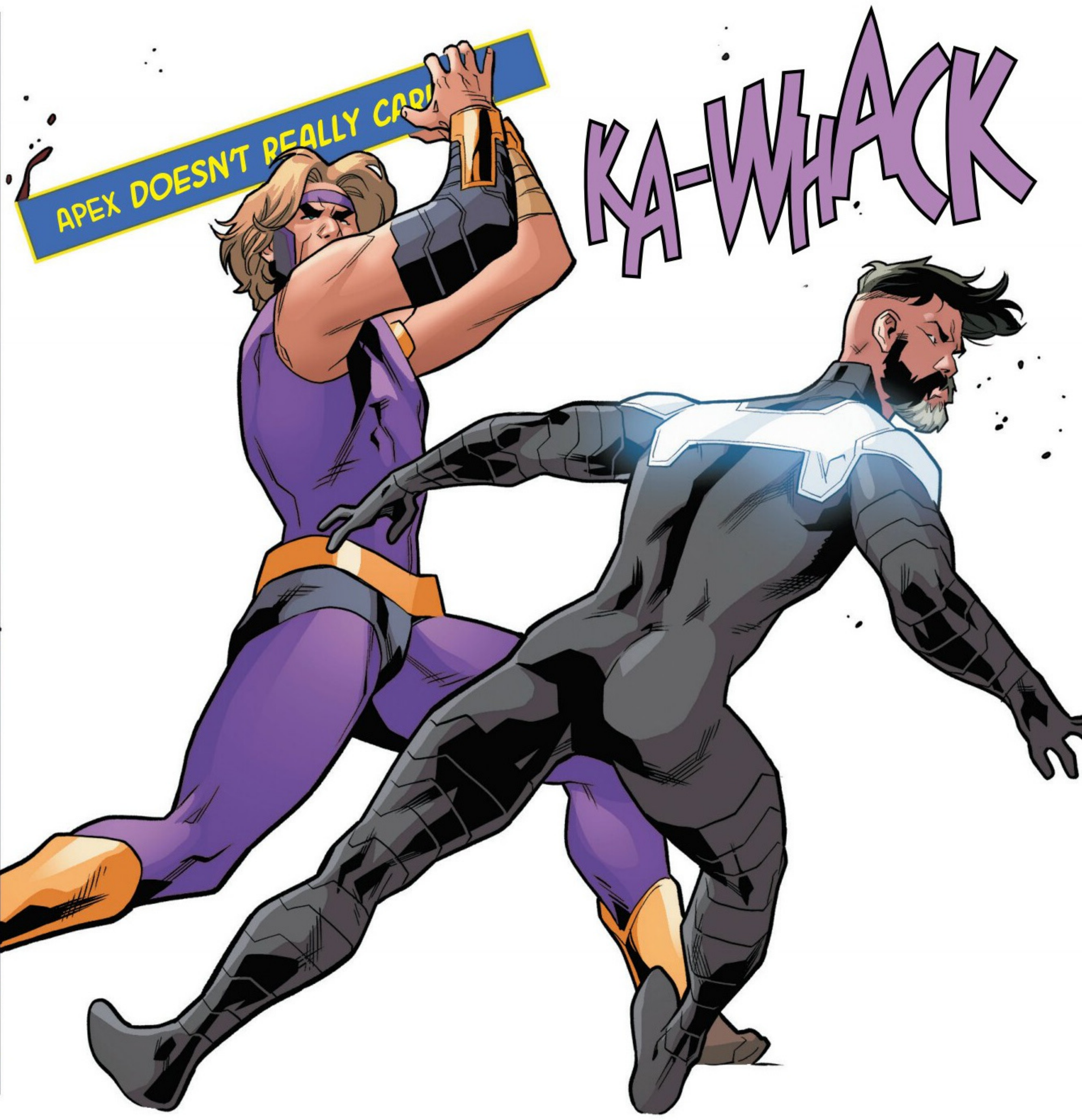
BUT SURELY-- NNN--THAT'S THE ***BEAUTY*** AT THE HEART OF THE UNIVERSE.
YOU CAN REDUCE IT ALL DOWN TO ***SOUNDS*** AND ***COLORS*** AND ***SHAPES*** AND IT STILL ***MEANS*** SOMETHING.
YOUR NAIVETY IS BREATHTAKING.
WHAT?
KK-WHHAMM

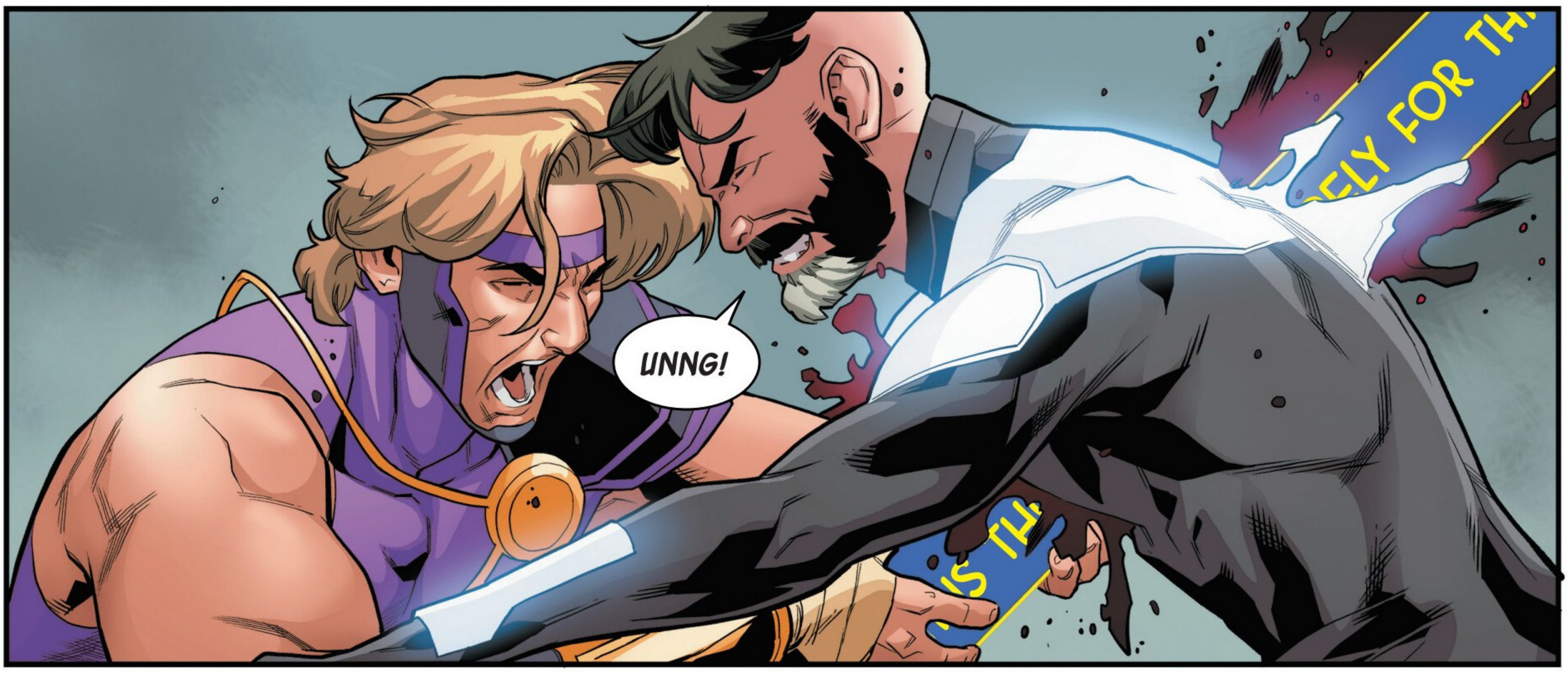
BUT YOU DO--
--UNFF--
--GET IT, DON'T YOU? YOU SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE? THEN WHY DO YOU STRUGGLE?
WHY DO *YOU?*
BECAUSE I SEE A WAY TO *TRANSCEND* MY EXISTENCE.
AND HOW DO YOU PLAN ON DOING THAT?
REINTERPRETATION, MY DEAR.
I'M GOING TO REINVENT MYSELF FOR EVERY REALITY UNTIL I FIND THE ONE WHERE LIFE IS WHAT I *WANT IT* TO BE.
WHUP!
HEY!
AND THEN I'LL TAKE CONTROL. THEN I'LL BE HAPPY.
HAPPY?
HOW CAN YOU BE HAPPY IN A UNIVERSE WHERE NOTHING *MEANS* ANYTHING?
WHAT ABOUT *YOUR* UNIVERSE? THE ONE YOU KILLED? WILL YOU BE TAKING *THAT* WITH YOU?
IT'LL BE ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT THEY STILL LIVE *HERE,* IN THIS *PLACE.*
YEAH.
FIGURED AS MUCH.

APEX DOESN'T UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING THAT'S BEING TALKED ABOUT.
APEX RARELY UNDERSTANDS. HE'S NOT SMART LIKE THEY ARE.
HE CAN'T SAY ONE THING AND MEAN THAT THING BUT ALSO MEAN ANOTHER THIN
THAT'S NOT HOW HIS MIND OPERATES.
BU HE UNDERSTANDS ENOUGH. ENOUGH TO GET BY.
BARELY.
UGH!


VERY GOOD, APEX! VERY GOOD!
UNFF!
YOU'RE LIVING PROOF THAT YOU DON'T NEED TO ***UNDERSTAND*** SOMETHING TO ***UTILIZE*** IT!


APEX DOESN'T KNOW WHAT *THAT* MEANS.


APEX DOESN'T REALLY CAR
KA-WHACK


ELY FOR TH
UNNG!
S TH

SO, THE-- THE BIG DUMB STRONG GUY REVEALS *HIDDEN DEPTHS* AND *UNEXPECTED INSIGHT*, EH?
DELIGHTFUL!
BUT HOW LONG CAN YOU *MAINTAIN* THIS FOCUS, APEX?
S RUNNING OU
OF IDEAS.
IT WAS A WORTHY ATTEMPT, MY SIMPLE-MINDED FRIEND. BUT NOT EVERYONE IS CUT OUT TO BE **GOD.**
OH NO.
OH NO, I'VE *RUN OUT OF THOUGHTS.*
THE UNIVERSE FOLDS.
I KNOW, QUANTUM. I CAN SEE IT TOO.
*WE HAVE TO FINISH IT! FIGHTING LIKE THIS IS DESTROYING THE **FABRIC OF REALITY!***
*WE'VE REACHED THE **POINT OF NO RETURN**, AND MINDS ARE GOING TO **SPLINTER!***
UHH-- WHAT? HOW DID...?
BETWEEN EVERY MOMENT WE PERCEIVE, APEX, THERE IS AN *INFINITY* OF POSSIBILITIES.
THIS IS THE RESULT OF ONE OF THEM.

NOW YOU JUST WAIT DOWN THERE FOR ME.
BWOMP
I'VE GOT HIM! COULSON! KILL HIM!
DEATH CAN'T KILL *ME*, QUANTUM. THERE *IS* NO DEATH AT *OUR* LEVEL.
OF COURSE, THAT MEANS I CAN'T KILL *YOU* EITHER.
BUT WHAT I CAN DO IS *TRAP YOU* AND *STRIP YOU* OF YOUR POWER.
BECAUSE THERE IS SOMETHING *MORE* THAN DEATH. THERE IS *NOTHINGNESS.*
EXCUSE ME.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE, APEX.

WHUDOO
NO!
NO!
NO!
ARGH!
DAMN IT, KID!
HUH.
CLEVER BOY.

YOU'VE DONE SO MUCH, BUT YOU'RE STILL STUCK **HERE**, WITH US. WHY IS THAT?
THERE'S NO POINT TO THIS, MULTITUDE. WHERE ARE YOU?
SO I WAS **RIGHT**--YOU'RE ALMOST AS LIMITED AS EVERYONE ELSE.
ONCE I'VE PASSED BEYOND WHAT YOU **PERCEIVE**, I COULD BE ANY**WHERE**, ANY**THING**, OR ANY**ONE** AT ANY **TIME**.
I COULD BE REALITY'S MOST POWERFUL BEING OR A FIGMENT OF YOUR IMAGINATION.
I COULD BE ALIVE OR DEAD. I COULD BE EVERY ONE OF THE INFINITY STONES, ALL AT ONCE--
--AND ALL I HAD TO DO WAS STEP OUTSIDE OF WHAT **IS** AND BECOME WHAT **COULD BE**.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE PLAYING WITH, WARD. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS COULD DO.
I HAVE **AN IDEA** OF WHAT IT COULD DO, MR. ZAVALA.
AND THEN THEY WOKE UP.
THE LAZY TO STO
LIKE MANY STORYTELLERS, I SEEK INSPIRATION FROM THE PAST--AND TO PARAPHRASE YOU...
"AND THEN HE WOKE UP."
ONLY THIS IS NOT YET THE END.

THE REST OF YOU CAN SEE HOW IT WORKS NOW, CAN'T YOU?
I CAN SEE IT, MULTITUDE.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
NO. WAIT.
WE CAN SEE IT, WARD.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
HOW ARE YOU DOING THIS?
I'M OPENING MY SOUL TO YOU.
YOU KNOW WHAT I KNOW. YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I UNDERSTAND.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
YOU CAN'T! YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A SOUL!
I DO NOW.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.

STOP. STOP WHAT YOU'RE--
I'LL TEAR YOU APART. I'LL--
YOU'LL DO *NOTHING,* ZAVALA.
YOU WON'T MOVE IN SPACE OR IN TIME. YOU'LL STAY WHERE YOU ARE.
DON'T DO THIS DON'T DON'T DO IT--
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.
NOOOOOOO!
AND THEN HE WOKE UP.

WHU?
AVERY? YOU OKAY, SWEETIE?
I--I DON'T--
WHERE--?
I HAD A DREAM, BUT...
NOPE, IT'S GONE.
MMF. YOU GOING BACK TO SLEEP?
NAW. I'M UP NOW. MAY AS WELL GREET THE NEW DAY.

WE DID IT. HOLY $@#%, WE DID IT!
YOU THINK WE'RE READY?
TO BE GODS? TO RESHAPE THE UNIVERSE INTO WHATEVER WE WANT? *HELL YES,* WE ARE!
I MEAN ARE WE READY TO FACE *WHATEVER IT IS* WE HAVE TO FACE.
THE INFINITY STONES CHOSE HUMAN HOSTS FOR A *REASON.*
WHAT?
I DON'T KNOW IF THEY HAVE TO CHANGE *US* OR WE HAVE TO CHANGE *THEM,* BUT THERE IS SOMETHING ON THE HORIZON, AND IT'S CLOSER THAN IT'S EVER BEEN.
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GUYS.
WE CAN *GAME THE SYSTEM* IN WAYS NO ONE HAS EVEN IMAGINED BEFORE! THIS ENTIRE UNIVERSE IS A *TOY* WE GET TO *PLAY WITH!*
WHAT ARE YOU EVEN TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT AM I TALKING ABOUT? WHAT AM *I* TALKING ABOUT?
WHAT *AM* I TALKING ABOUT?
WAIT.

WING, I SWEAR TO--
I'M SORRY. ALL THIS HAS JUST CONFIRMED WHAT I ALREADY KNEW.
THE KNOWLEDGE WE HAVE IS TOO *DANGEROUS*. WE *CAN'T* BE TRUSTED WITH THIS KIND OF POWER.
AND LEARNING TO WORK TOGETHER IS THE WORST THING WE COULD *POSSIBLY* HAVE DONE.
YOU'RE STOPPING ME FROM TEARING YOU APART, AREN'T YOU?
JUST LIKE YOU'VE BEEN STOPPING ME FROM CROSSING YOUR STUPID LINES *THIS ENTIRE TIME!*
YOU CAN BE *BETTER* THAN THIS, STAR.
I KNOW YOU CAN.
TOO MANY OF US IN THE SAME PLACE...I'M SORRY. IT'S TOO RISKY.
QUANTUM, I NEED YOU TO SCATTER THE WATCH THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE.
BUT I DON'T WANT TO.
I KNOW. I'M GOING TO *MAKE* YOU.
I'M SORRY.
DELIVER US TO WHERE WE'LL DO THE MOST GOOD.
NOW.
BWOMP

Who are we, and why are we here?
BZZZZ
The two most primal, essential questions in life.
MISTY?
NO, I'M GOOD. I JUST HAD...
I *KNOW* IT'S BEEN WEEKS--
Who are **they?** Seven hosts of the core elements of the universe.
Time. Space. Soul. Mind. Power. Reality. Death.
TRUST ME, I'D RATHER BE DAUGHTERS & DRAGON-ING WITH YOU THAN WHAT I'VE BEEN THROUGH.

Why are **they** here? To usher in a new age of exploration and discovery.
To add to the grand tapestry of that universe.
IT'S THE KIND OF NONSENSE THAT'S BETTER EXPLAINED IN PERSON.
Every story told revolves around who we are. Every story told is about why we are here.
And whether or not we can transcend our limitations.
UGH, I HATE THAT PLACE.
FINE. BUT YOU'D THINK SAVING THE MULTIVERSE GETS ME THE RIGHT TO PICK THE COFFEE SHOP.
This?
This is just the beginning.
END.

I mean, they give me a bunch of misfits and oddballs—and one or two bona fide heroes—who are trying to come to grips with the power of the gods while wondering if they even WANT to act responsibly—what am i gonna do, NOT have them poke holes through their own universe?

EXACTLY!

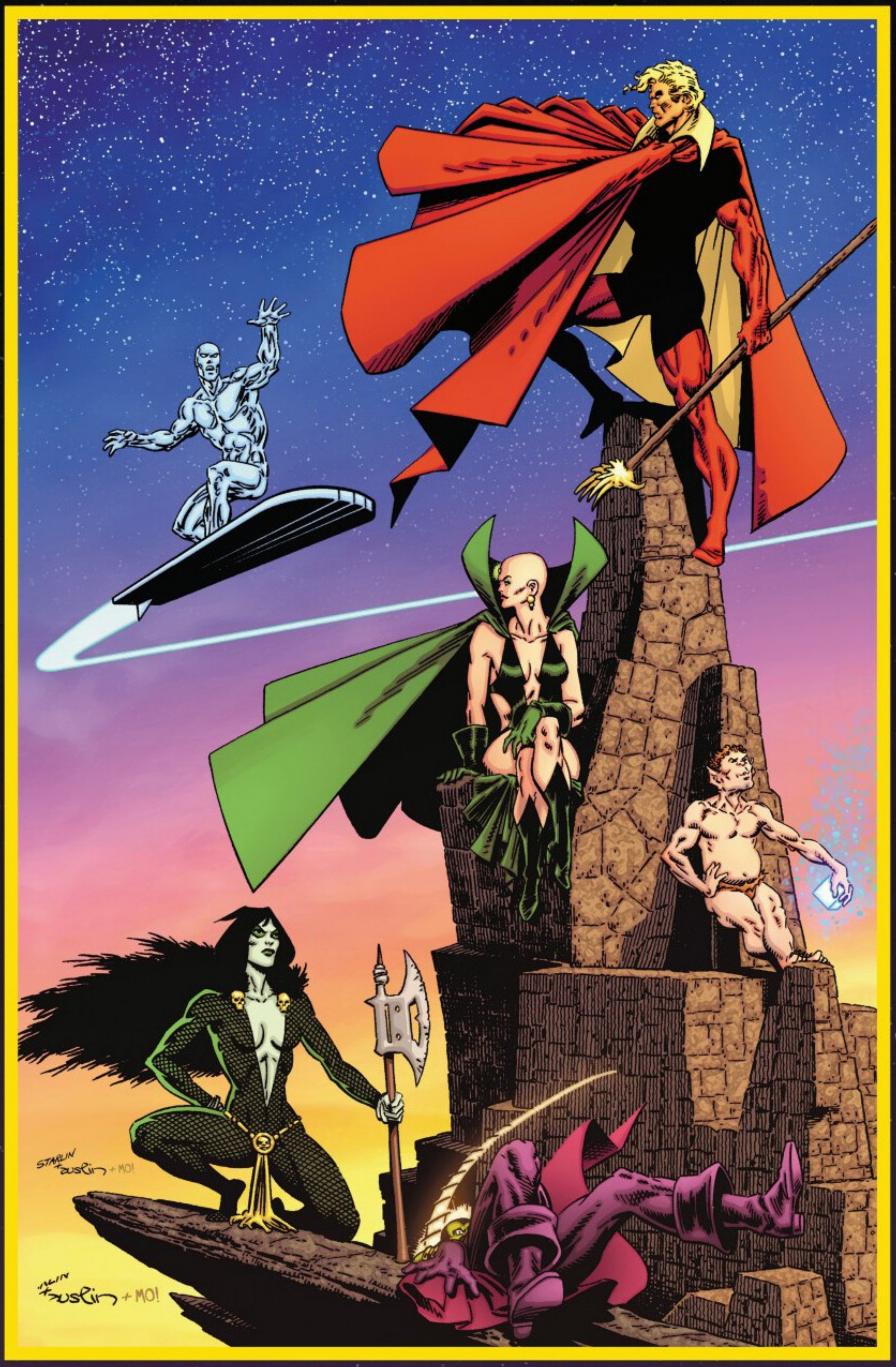
See, YOU get it. and thankfully, nick lowe got it, and kaitlyn lindtvedt got it, and they went and they corralled (fellow irishman) ruairí coleman and enid balám to take my cheerfully confusing panel descriptions and turn them into art. backed up by scott hanna and brian reber, ruairí and enid managed to lose neither their minds nor their patience—which is VERY much appreciated.

Massive shout-out to vc's cory petit too. when i realized we were going to have our heroes swinging out of narrative captions and hitting each other with dialogue balloons, that was the moment when i wondered if i had gone too far. but cory stepped up and embraced the madness, and now i'm wondering if i didn't go far ENOUGH.

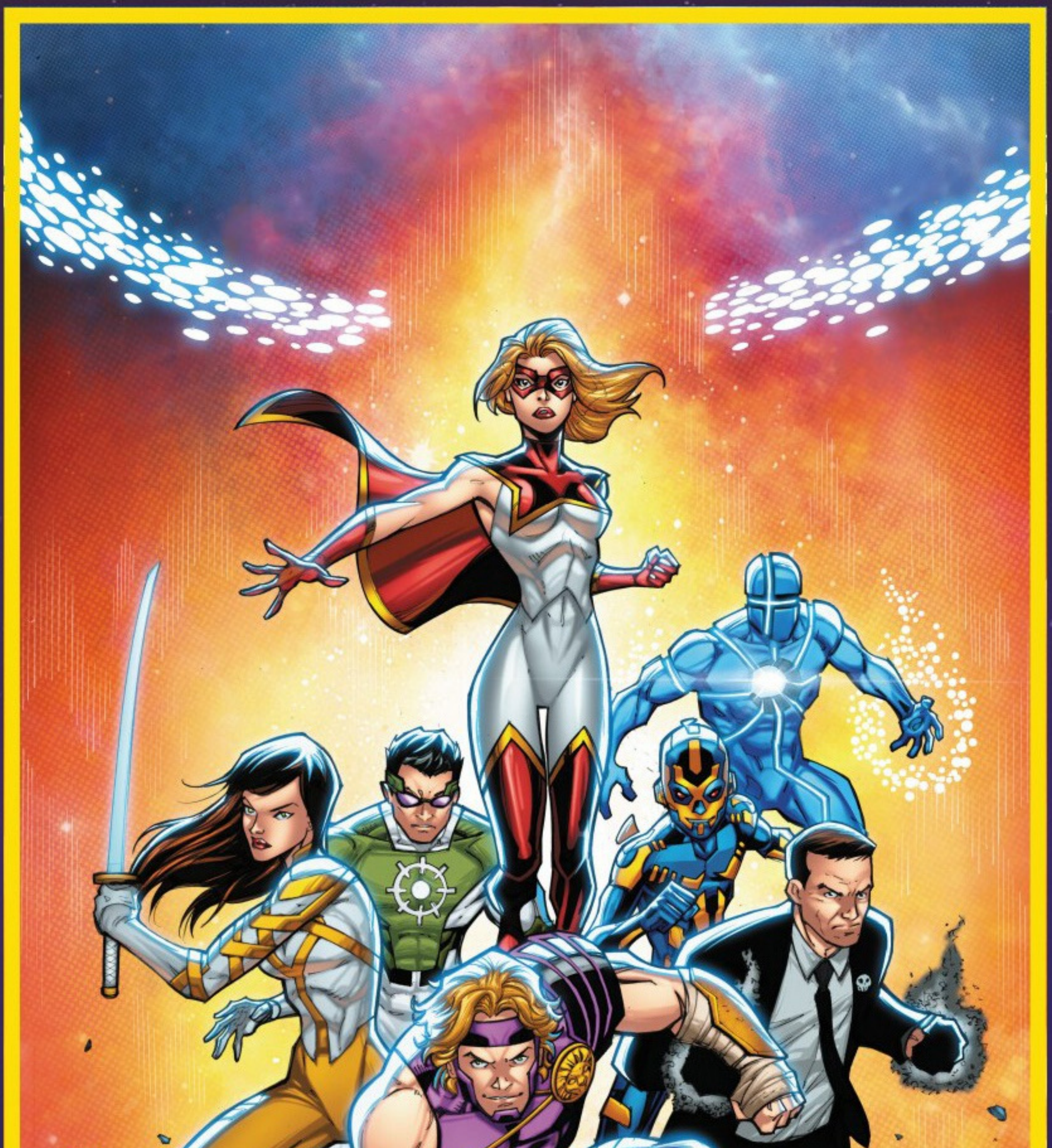
There is something coming. this is marvel, so there's ALWAYS something coming, but it's on the horizon now, and we can see it begin to take shape. whether the infinity watch will be in any fit state to play their part when it arrives, it's far too early to tell, but i hope they are. they're a lovable bunch when they stop arguing, and they're an effective team when they stop trying to kill each other, but most of all, they're good people.

Oh, no, wait—that's someone else.

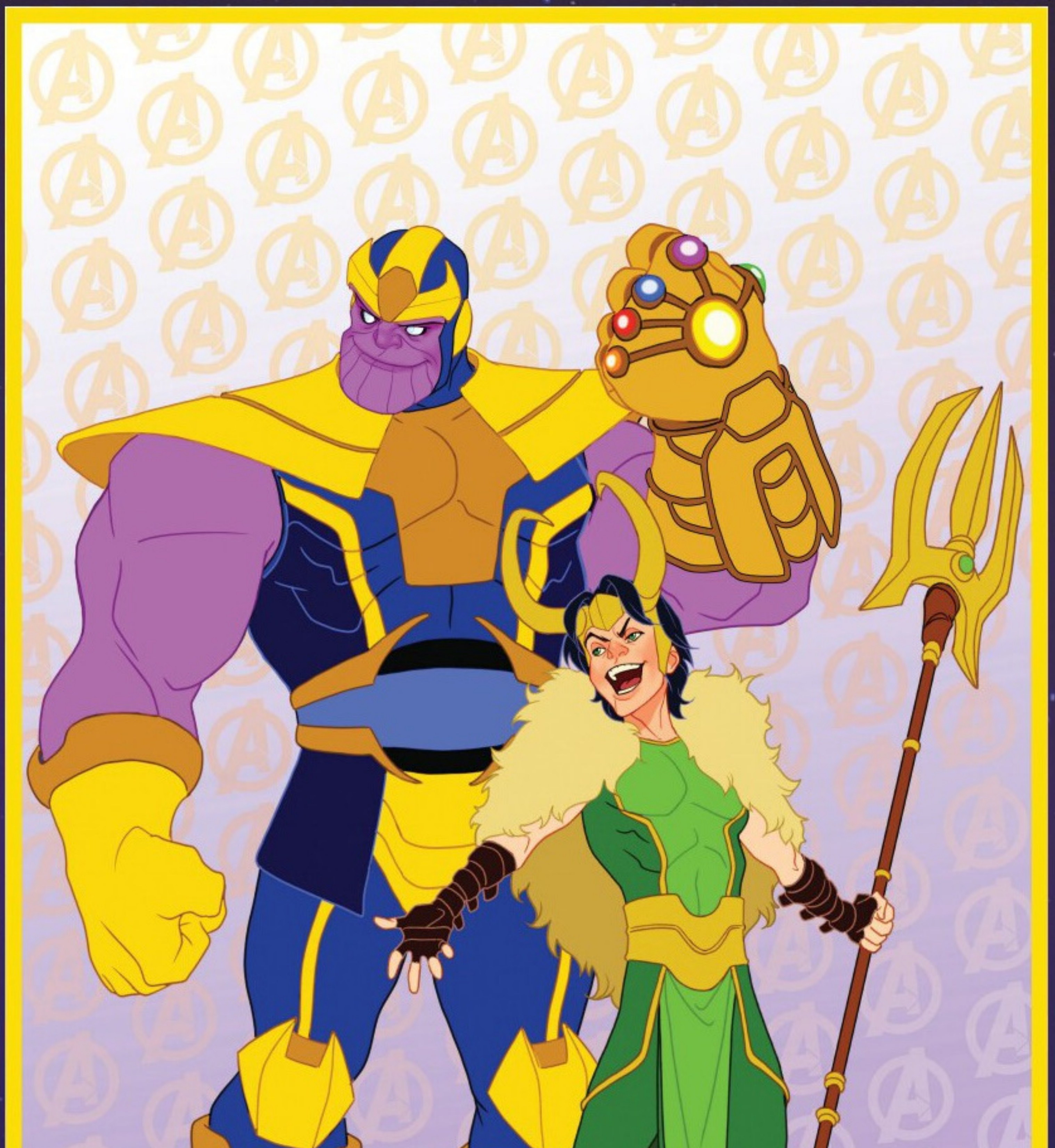
Derek



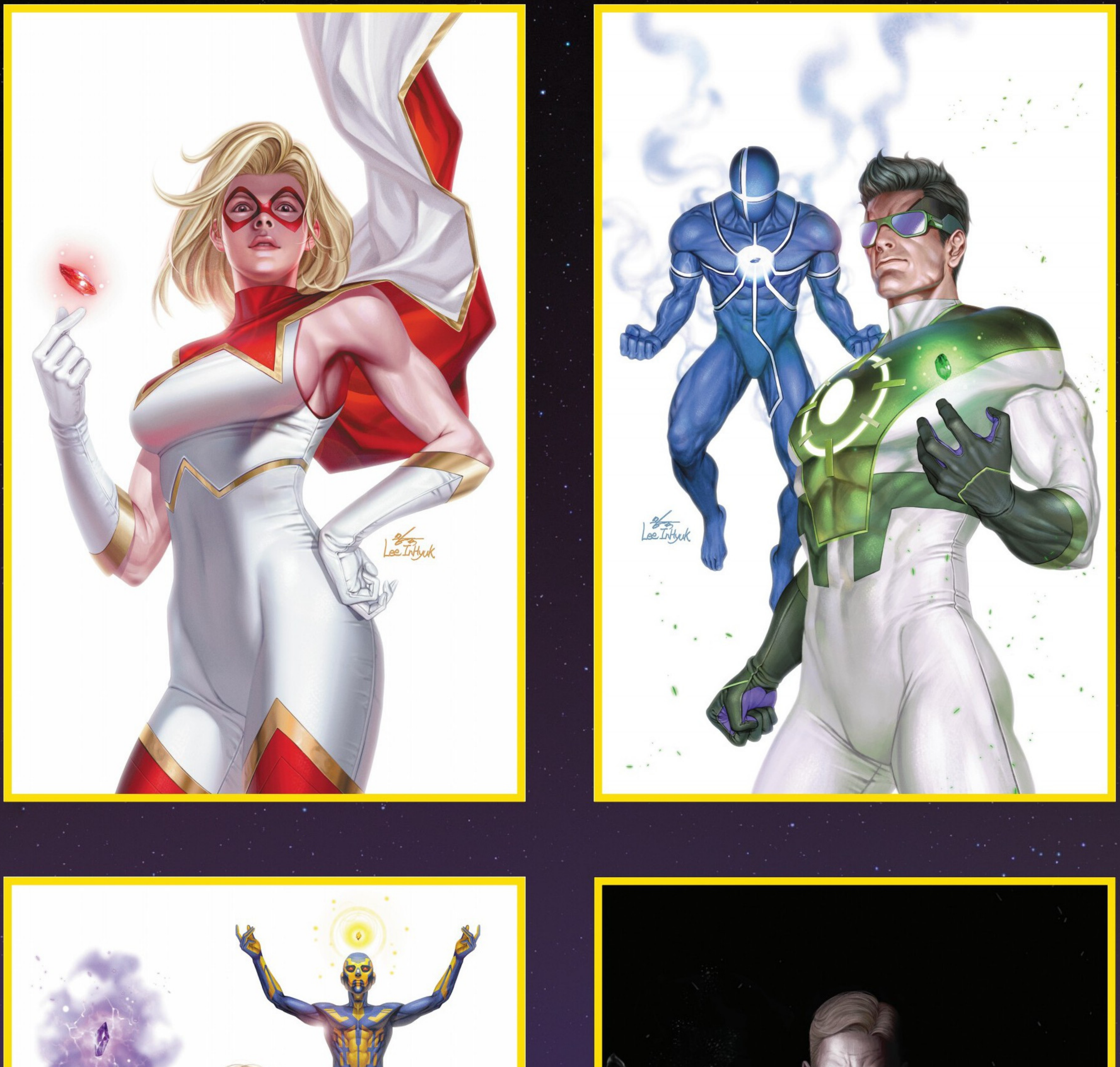
#1 HIDDEN GEM VARIANT BY
JIM STARLIN & **MORRY HOLLOWELL**



#2 VARIANT BY
RON LIM & **ISRAEL SILVA**

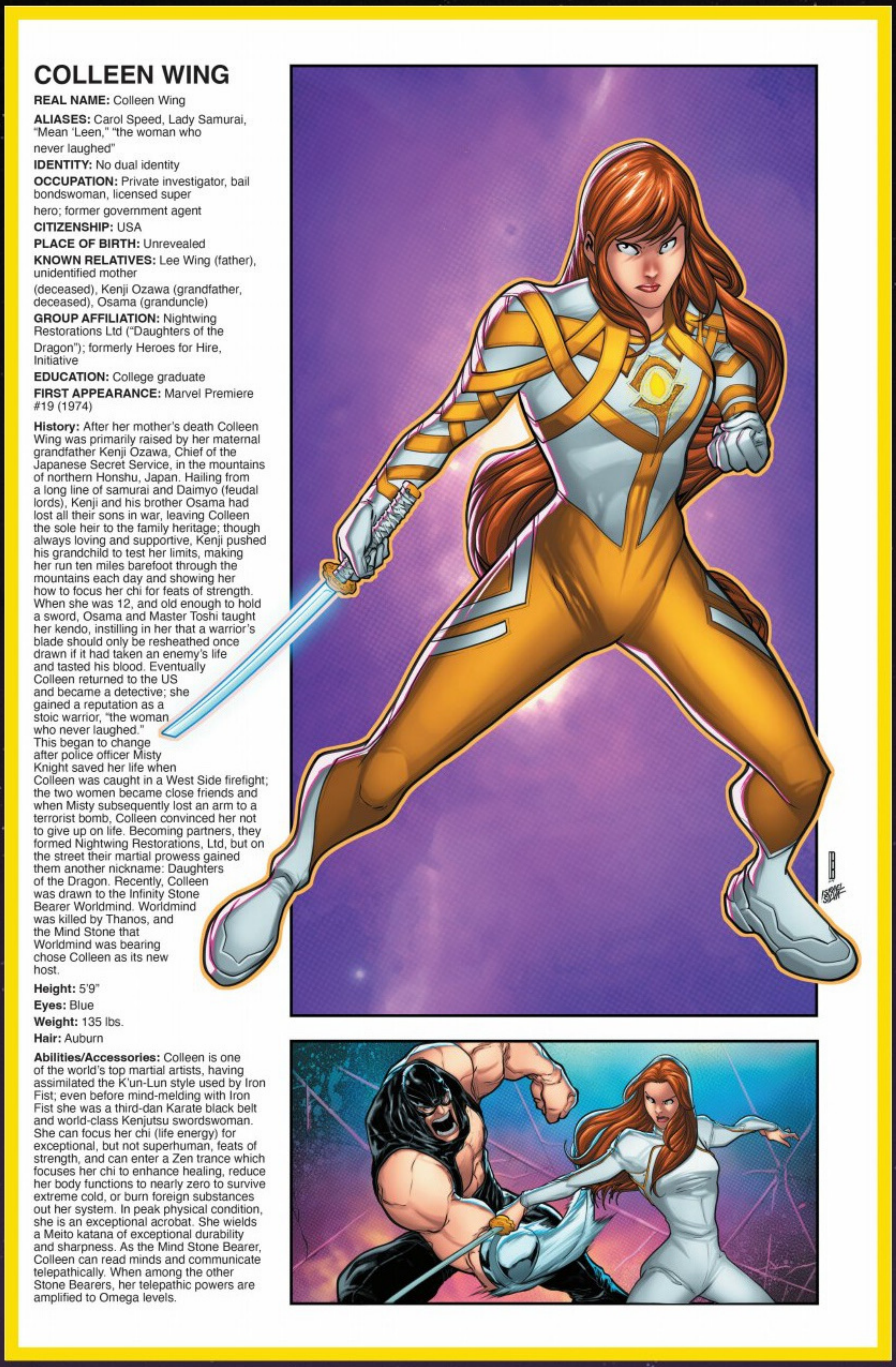


#3 ANIMATED-STYLE VARIANT BY
MARK BROOKS


Lee InHyuk
Lee InHyuk
Lee InHyuk
Lee InHyuk

#1–4 VARIANTS BY **INHYUK LEE**

#5 VARIANT BY **INHYUK LEE**



COLLEEN WING

REAL NAME: Colleen Wing

ALIASES: Carol Speed, Lady Samurai, "Mean 'Leen," "the woman who never laughed"

IDENTITY: No dual identity

OCCUPATION: Private investigator, bail bondswoman, licensed super hero; former government agent

CITIZENSHIP: USA

PLACE OF BIRTH: Unrevealed

KNOWN RELATIVES: Lee Wing (father), unidentified mother (deceased), Kenji Ozawa (grandfather, deceased), Osama (granduncle)

GROUP AFFILIATION: Nightwing Restorations Ltd ("Daughters of the Dragon"); formerly Heroes for Hire, Initiative

EDUCATION: College graduate

FIRST APPEARANCE: Marvel Premiere #19 (1974)

History: After her mother's death Colleen Wing was primarily raised by her maternal grandfather Kenji Ozawa, Chief of the Japanese Secret Service, in the mountains of northern Honshu, Japan. Hailing from a long line of samurai and Daimyo (feudal lords), Kenji and his brother Osama had lost all their sons in war, leaving Colleen the sole heir to the family heritage; though always loving and supportive, Kenji pushed his grandchild to test her limits, making her run ten miles barefoot through the mountains each day and showing her how to focus her chi for feats of strength. When she was 12, and old enough to hold a sword, Osama and Master Toshi taught her kendo, instilling in her that a warrior's blade should only be resheathed once drawn if it had taken an enemy's life and tasted his blood. Eventually Colleen returned to the US and became a detective; she gained a reputation as a stoic warrior, "the woman who never laughed." This began to change after police officer Misty Knight saved her life when Colleen was caught in a West Side firefight; the two women became close friends and when Misty subsequently lost an arm to a terrorist bomb, Colleen convinced her not to give up on life. Becoming partners, they formed Nightwing Restorations, Ltd, but on the street their martial prowess gained them another nickname: Daughters of the Dragon. Recently, Colleen was drawn to the Infinity Stone Bearer Worldmind. Worldmind was killed by Thanos, and the Mind Stone that Worldmind was bearing chose Colleen as its new host.

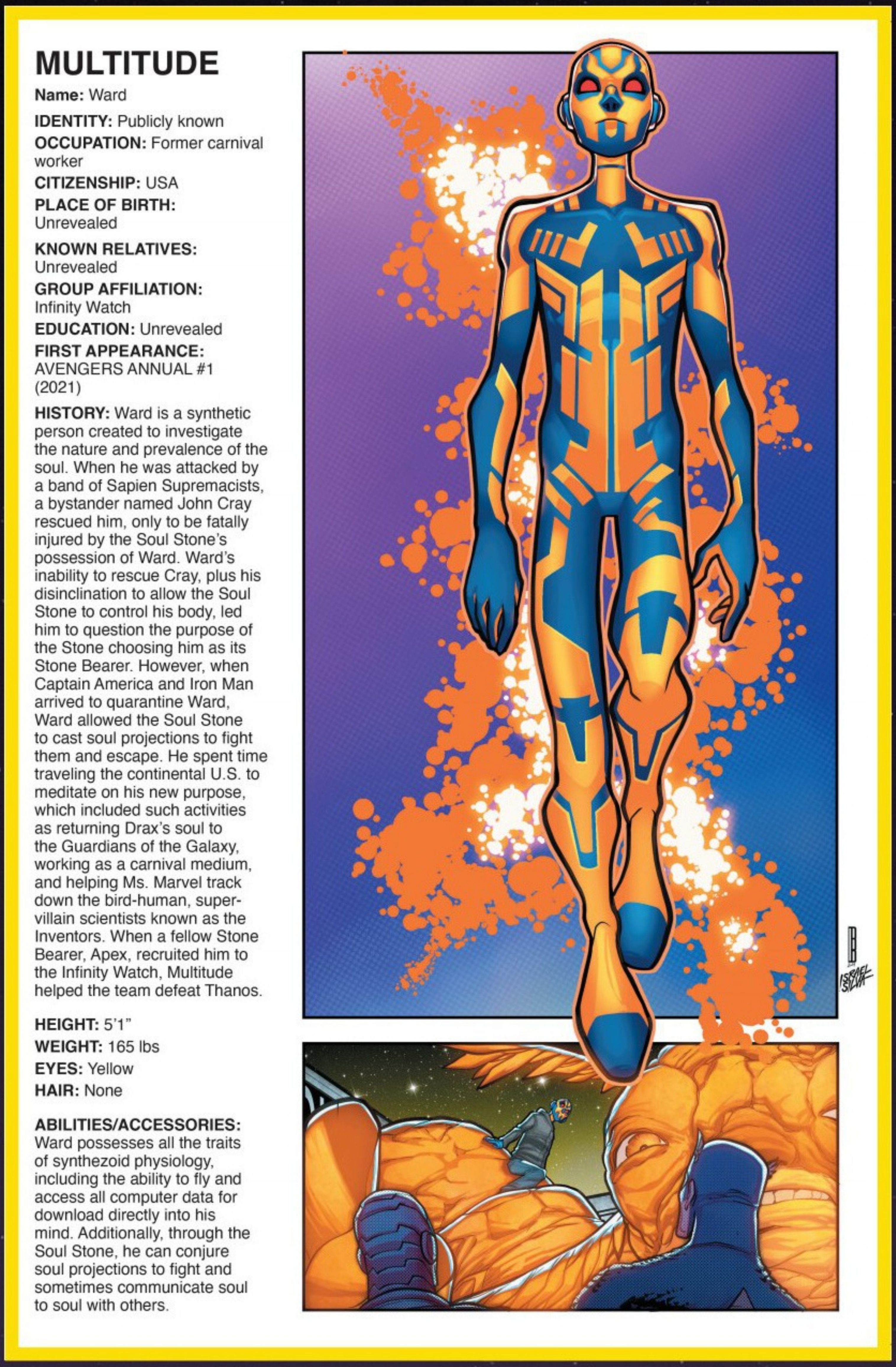
Height: 5'9"

Eyes: Blue

Weight: 135 lbs.

Hair: Auburn

Abilities/Accessories: Colleen is one of the world's top martial artists, having assimilated the K'un-Lun style used by Iron Fist; even before mind-melding with Iron Fist she was a third-dan Karate black belt and world-class Kenjutsu swordswoman. She can focus her chi (life energy) for exceptional, but not superhuman, feats of strength, and can enter a Zen trance which focuses her chi to enhance healing, reduce her body functions to nearly zero to survive extreme cold, or burn foreign substances out her system. In peak physical condition, she is an exceptional acrobat. She wields a Meito katana of exceptional durability and sharpness. As the Mind Stone Bearer, Colleen can read minds and communicate telepathically. When among the other Stone Bearers, her telepathic powers are amplified to Omega levels.



MULTITUDE

Name: Ward

IDENTITY: Publicly known

OCCUPATION: Former carnival worker

CITIZENSHIP: USA

PLACE OF BIRTH: Unrevealed

KNOWN RELATIVES: Unrevealed

GROUP AFFILIATION: Infinity Watch

EDUCATION: Unrevealed

FIRST APPEARANCE: AVENGERS ANNUAL #1 (2021)

HISTORY: Ward is a synthetic person created to investigate the nature and prevalence of the soul. When he was attacked by a band of Sapien Supremacists, a bystander named John Cray rescued him, only to be fatally injured by the Soul Stone's possession of Ward. Ward's inability to rescue Cray, plus his disinclination to allow the Soul Stone to control his body, led him to question the purpose of the Stone choosing him as its Stone Bearer. However, when Captain America and Iron Man arrived to quarantine Ward, Ward allowed the Soul Stone to cast soul projections to fight them and escape. He spent time traveling the continental U.S. to meditate on his new purpose, which included such activities as returning Drax's soul to the Guardians of the Galaxy, working as a carnival medium, and helping Ms. Marvel track down the bird-human, super-villain scientists known as the Inventors. When a fellow Stone Bearer, Apex, recruited him to the Infinity Watch, Multitude helped the team defeat Thanos.

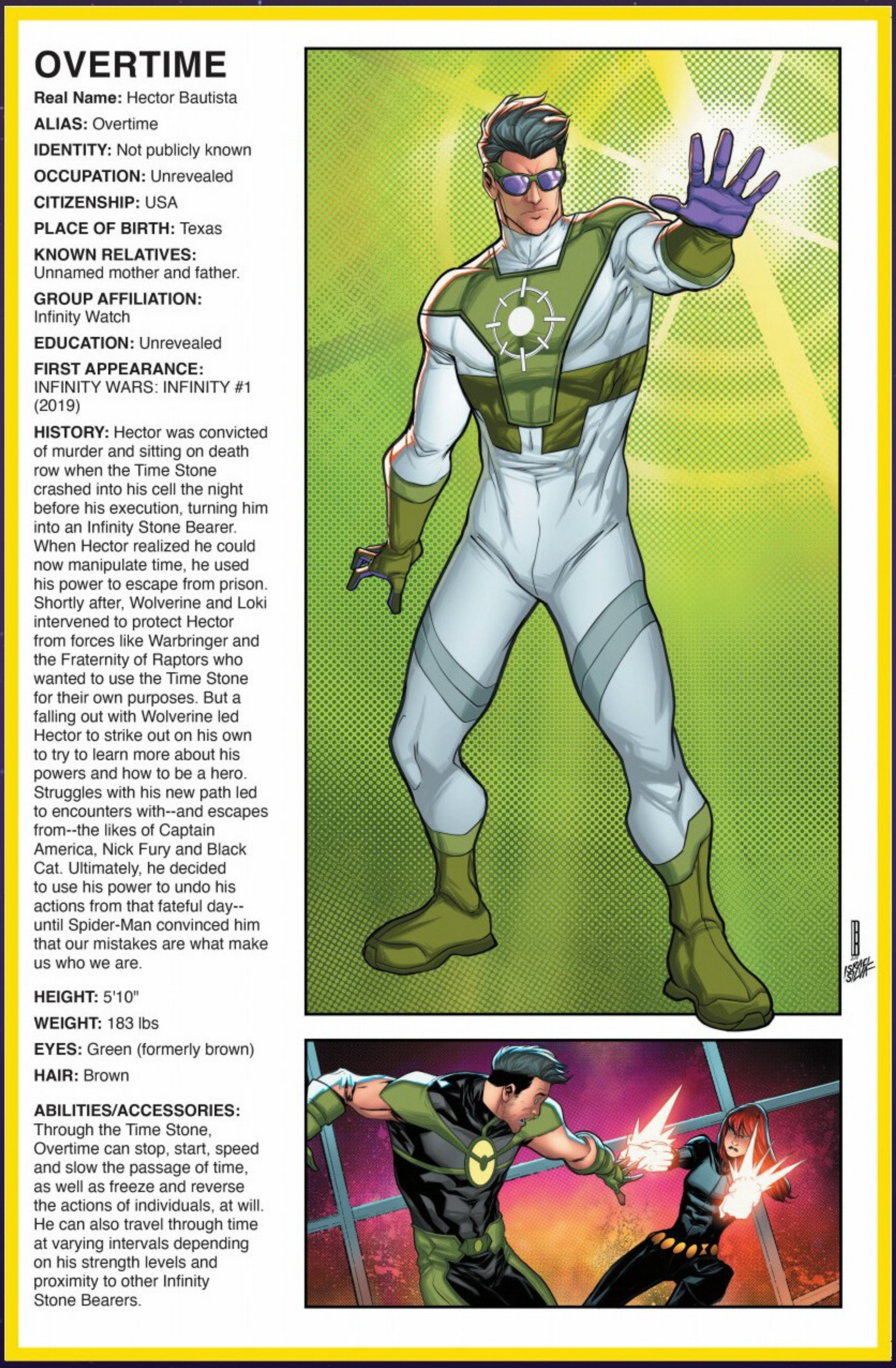
HEIGHT: 5'1"

WEIGHT: 165 lbs

EYES: Yellow

HAIR: None

ABILITIES/ACCESSORIES: Ward possesses all the traits of synthezoid physiology, including the ability to fly and access all computer data for download directly into his mind. Additionally, through the Soul Stone, he can conjure soul projections to fight and sometimes communicate soul to soul with others.



OVERTIME

Real Name: Hector Bautista

ALIAS: Overtime

IDENTITY: Not publicly known

OCCUPATION: Unrevealed

CITIZENSHIP: USA

PLACE OF BIRTH: Texas

KNOWN RELATIVES: Unnamed mother and father.

GROUP AFFILIATION: Infinity Watch

EDUCATION: Unrevealed

FIRST APPEARANCE: INFINITY WARS: INFINITY #1 (2019)

HISTORY: Hector was convicted of murder and sitting on death row when the Time Stone crashed into his cell the night before his execution, turning him into an Infinity Stone Bearer. When Hector realized he could now manipulate time, he used his power to escape from prison. Shortly after, Wolverine and Loki intervened to protect Hector from forces like Warbringer and the Fraternity of Raptors who wanted to use the Time Stone for their own purposes. But a falling out with Wolverine led Hector to strike out on his own to try to learn more about his powers and how to be a hero. Struggles with his new path led to encounters with--and escapes from--the likes of Captain America, Nick Fury and Black Cat. Ultimately, he decided to use his power to undo his actions from that fateful day--until Spider-Man convinced him that our mistakes are what make us who we are.

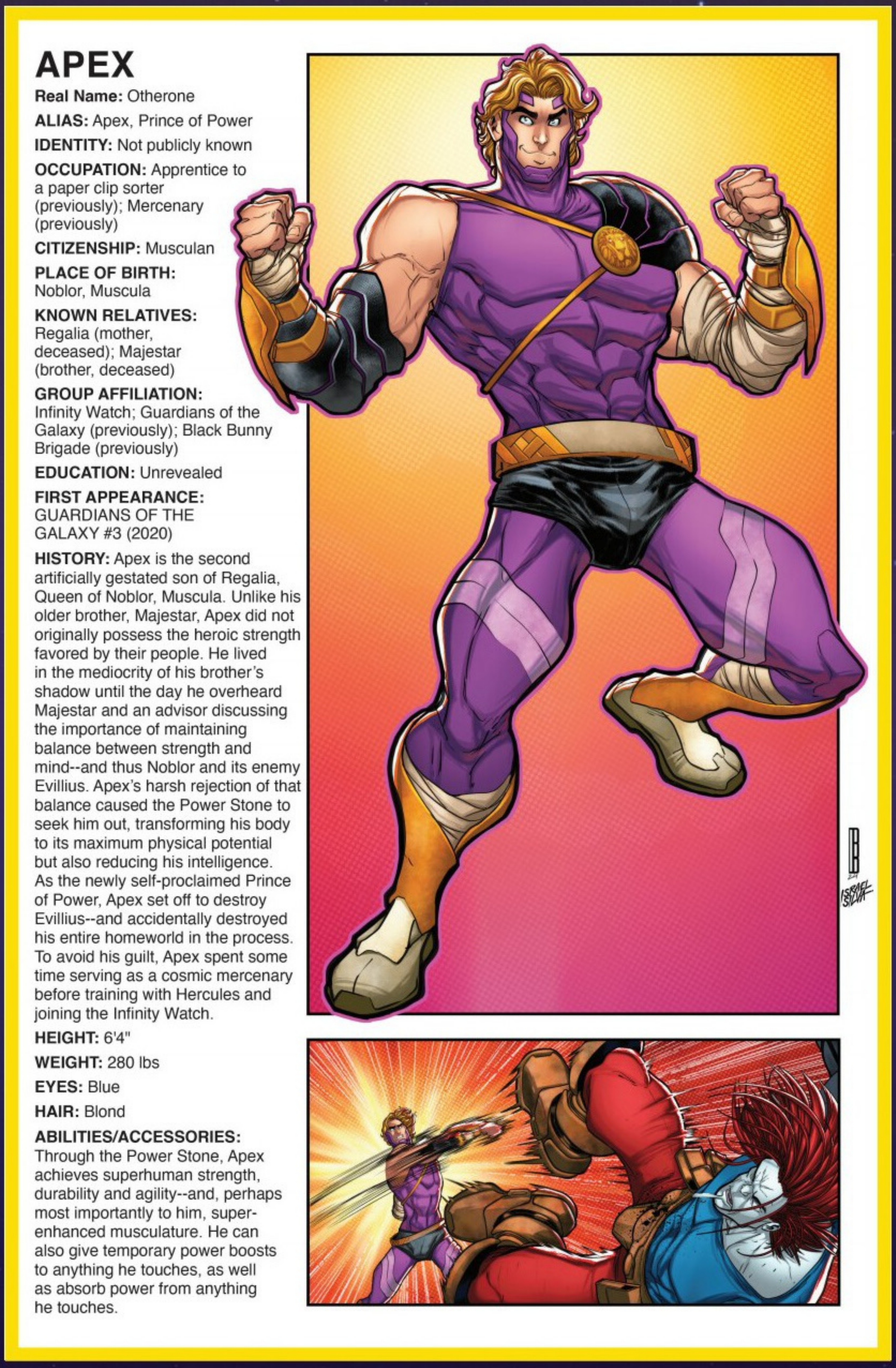
HEIGHT: 5'10"

WEIGHT: 183 lbs

EYES: Green (formerly brown)

HAIR: Brown

ABILITIES/ACCESSORIES: Through the Time Stone, Overtime can stop, start, speed and slow the passage of time, as well as freeze and reverse the actions of individuals, at will. He can also travel through time at varying intervals depending on his strength levels and proximity to other Infinity Stone Bearers.



APEX

Real Name: Otherone

ALIAS: Apex, Prince of Power

IDENTITY: Not publicly known

OCCUPATION: Apprentice to a paper clip sorter (previously); Mercenary (previously)

CITIZENSHIP: Musculan

PLACE OF BIRTH: Noblor, Muscula

KNOWN RELATIVES: Regalia (mother, deceased); Majestar (brother, deceased)

GROUP AFFILIATION: Infinity Watch; Guardians of the Galaxy (previously); Black Bunny Brigade (previously)

EDUCATION: Unrevealed

FIRST APPEARANCE: GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY #3 (2020)

HISTORY: Apex is the second artificially gestated son of Regalia, Queen of Noblor, Muscula. Unlike his older brother, Majestar, Apex did not originally possess the heroic strength favored by their people. He lived in the mediocrity of his brother's shadow until the day he overheard Majestar and an advisor discussing the importance of maintaining balance between strength and mind--and thus Noblor and its enemy Evillius. Apex's harsh rejection of that balance caused the Power Stone to seek him out, transforming his body to its maximum physical potential but also reducing his intelligence. As the newly self-proclaimed Prince of Power, Apex set off to destroy Evillius--and accidentally destroyed his entire homeworld in the process. To avoid his guilt, Apex spent some time serving as a cosmic mercenary before training with Hercules and joining the Infinity Watch.

HEIGHT: 6'4"

WEIGHT: 280 lbs

EYES: Blue

HAIR: Blond

ABILITIES/ACCESSORIES: Through the Power Stone, Apex achieves superhuman strength, durability and agility--and, perhaps most importantly to him, super-enhanced musculature. He can also give temporary power boosts to anything he touches, as well as absorb power from anything he touches.

#1–4 HANDBOOK VARIANTS BY **DAVID BALDEÓN** & **ISRAEL SILVA**

Star

Real Name: Ripley Ryan
ALIAS: Star
IDENTITY: Not publicly known

OCCUPATION: Reporter (previously)

CITIZENSHIP: USA

PLACE OF BIRTH: Unrevealed

KNOWN RELATIVES: Roberta Ryan (mother, deceased)

GROUP AFFILIATION: Infinity Watch, Thunderbolts (previously)

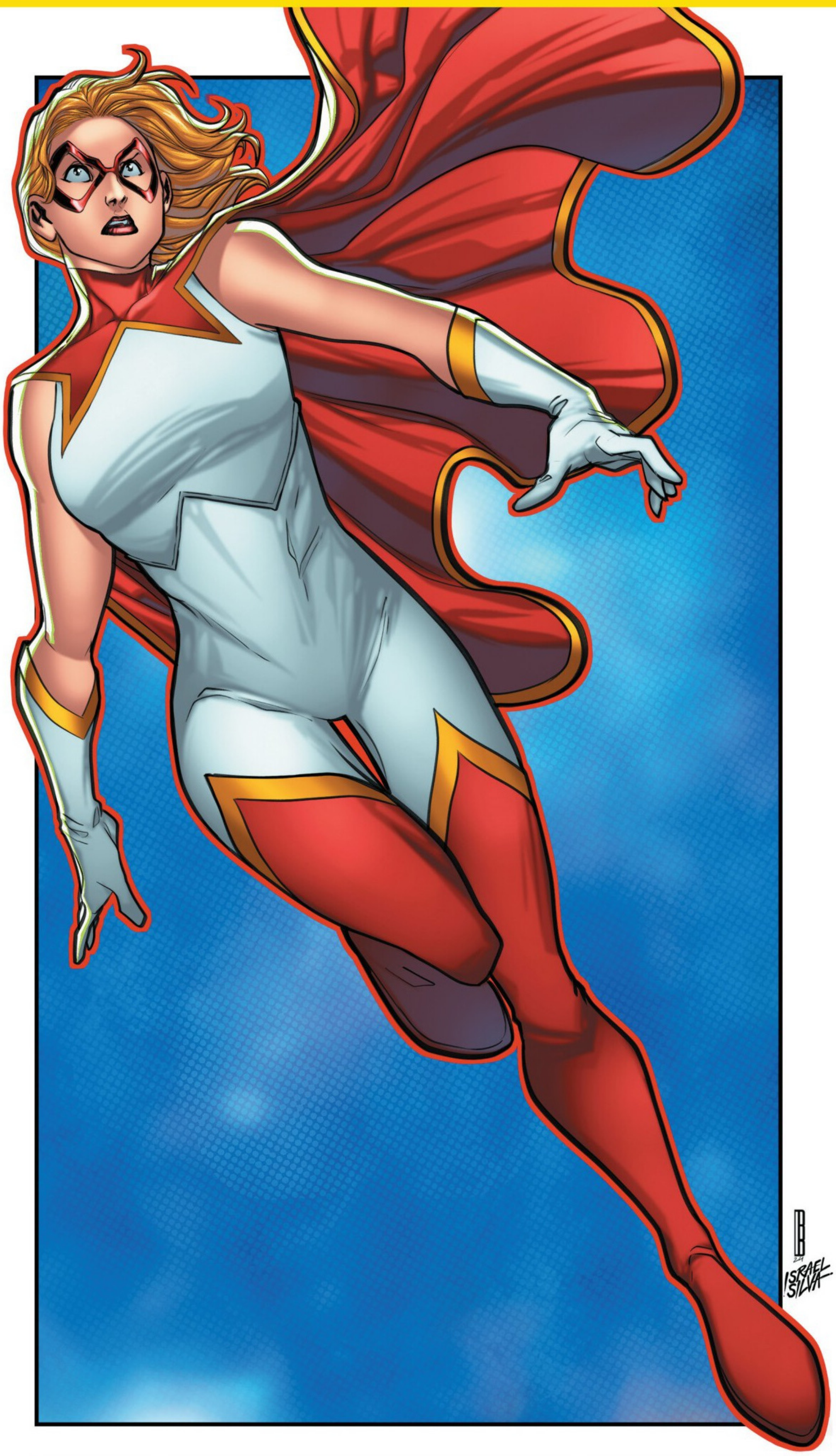
EDUCATION: Unrevealed

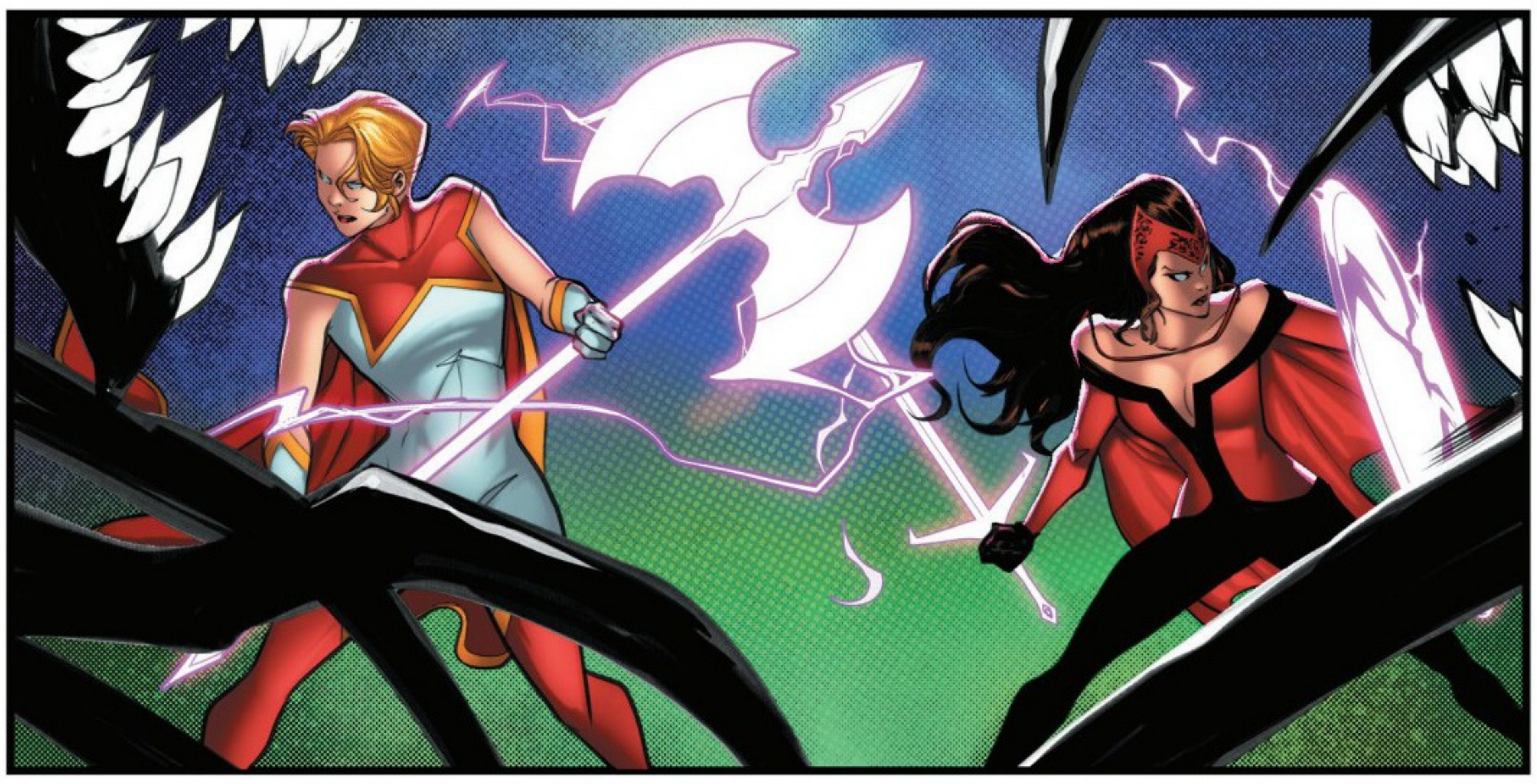
FIRST APPEARANCE: CAPTAIN MARVEL #1 (2019)

HISTORY: Ripley Ryan was a reporter who, after an interview with Captain Marvel turned into a months-long kidnapping at the hands of Nuclear Man, bargained with a Kree scientist to gain super-powers. When that experiment failed, she tried to steal Captain Marvel's powers—and ended up in the Raft, where she was soon sought out by the Reality Stone. The Scarlet Witch and Captain Marvel tried to help Ripley understand her new power, but Ripley chose her personal freedom above all and cut a deal with the Black Order to ensure that she would never be hunted again. For a time after, Ripley used her new powers to do whatever she wanted, including aligning with Mayor Fisk's Thunderbolts during Knull's invasion of Earth and creating a less traumatic childhood for herself. Ripley's reckless use of her powers caught Spider-Man's and Nick Fury's attention, but she managed to escape, only resurfacing to join the Infinity Watch's efforts to defeat Thanos.

HEIGHT: 5'10"
WEIGHT: 148 lbs
EYES: Green
HAIR: Blond

ABILITIES/ACCESSORIES: Through the Reality Stone, Star is able to manipulate reality by either thinking or stating her intended alteration. This has included flight, alternate-reality creation, super-strength and optic blasts, among other powers. However, Star's power options are limited to what she can imagine, so she must be as specific and elaborate as possible in her commands.





#5 HANDBOOK VARIANT BY **DAVID BALDEÓN** & **ISRAEL SILVA**

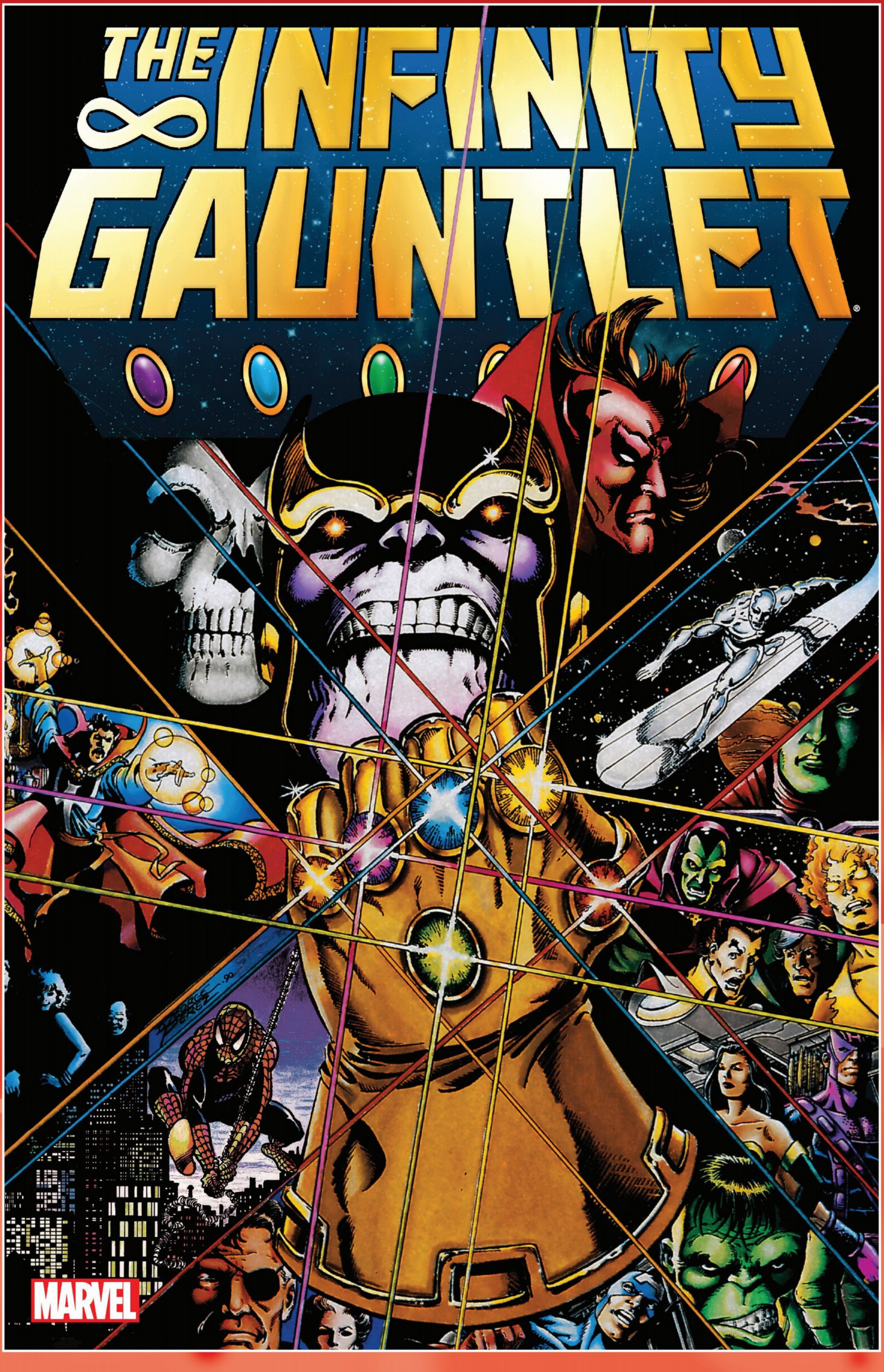
MARVEL COLLECTED EDITIONS

THE INFINITY WATCH
"A win across the board."
– ComicBook.com
GURU
POWER CORRUPTS
MARVEL

Infinity Watch: Power Corrupts
ISBN 978-1-302-96038-4

AVAILABLE IN PRINT OR DIGITAL WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD!

MARVEL COLLECTED EDITIONS


THE INFINITY GAUNTLET
MARVEL

Infinity Gauntlet
ISBN 978-0-7851-5659-8

AVAILABLE IN PRINT OR DIGITAL WHEREVER BOOKS ARE SOLD!

KAMIC RIDER
MARIKA